

## Urusei Vatsura Yatsura



Story & Art by RUMIKO TAKAHASHI



# Urusei Vatsura

Part 11



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### CHAPTER 1: ADVERSE EFFECTS









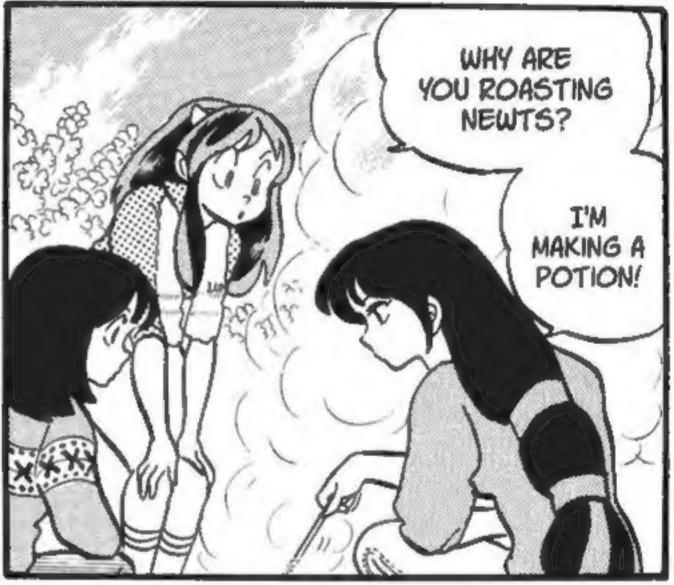






























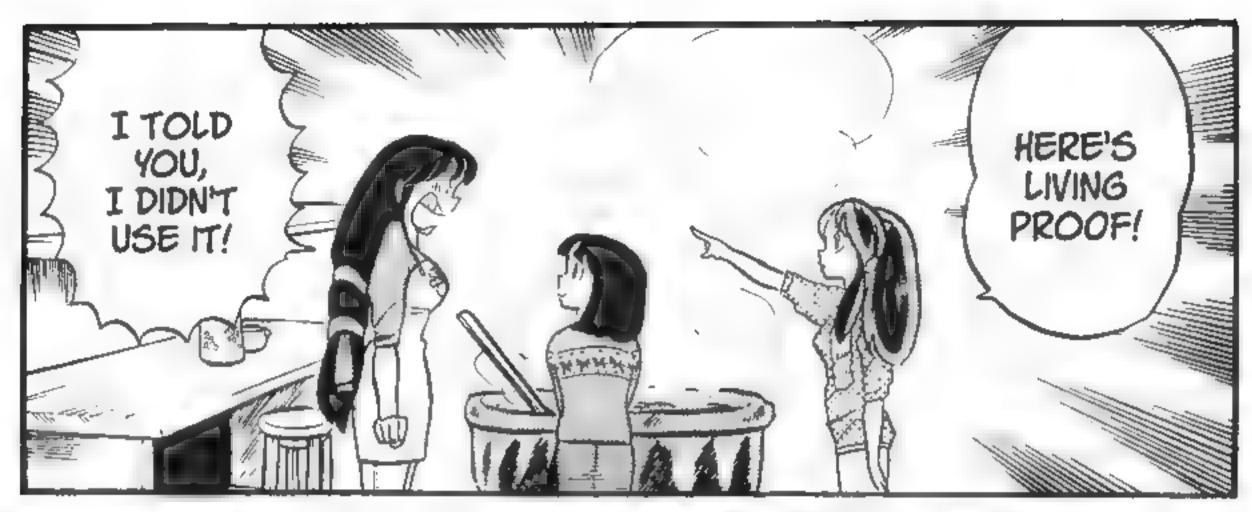




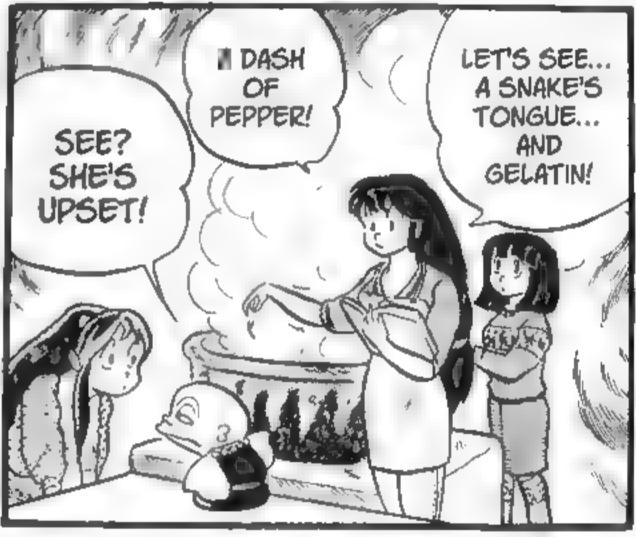




















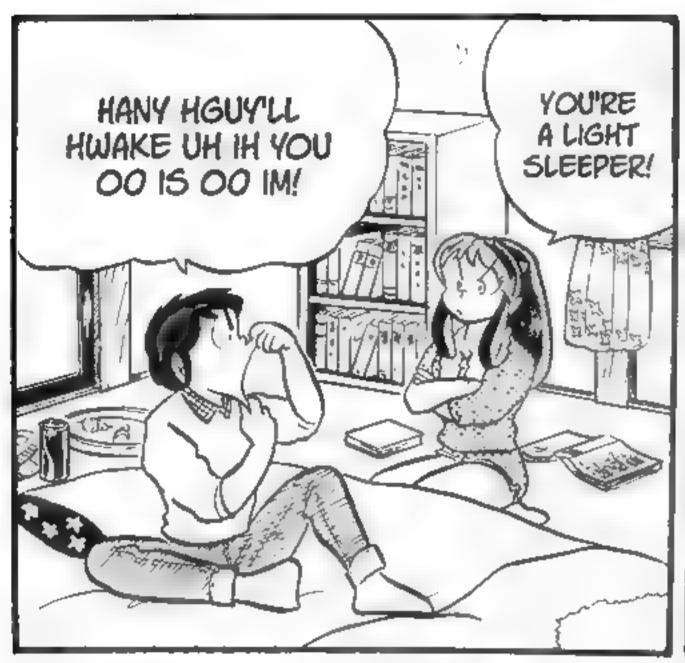










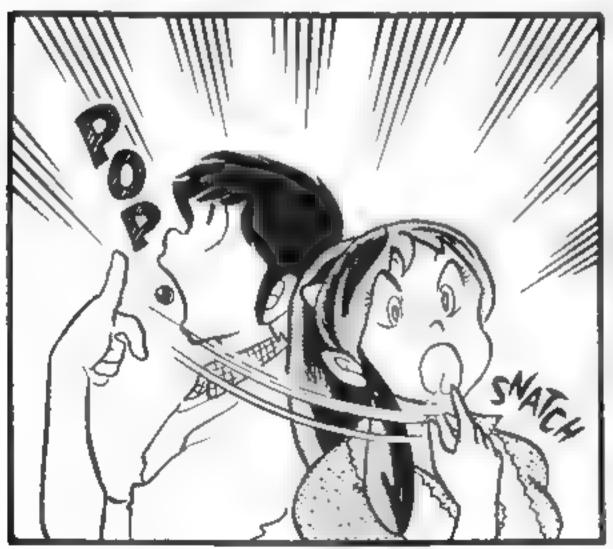






















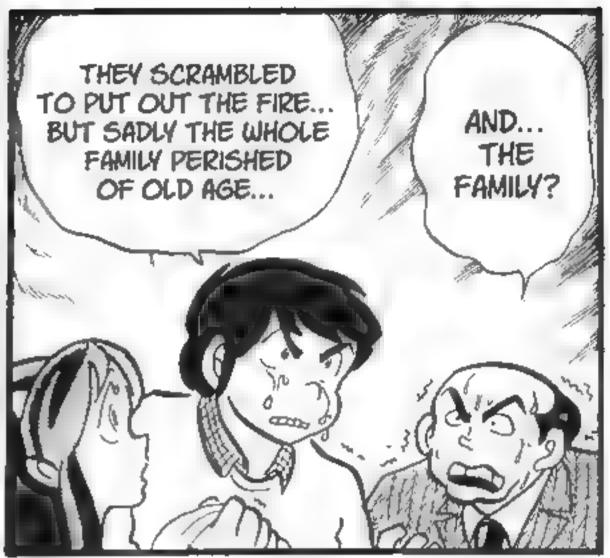




















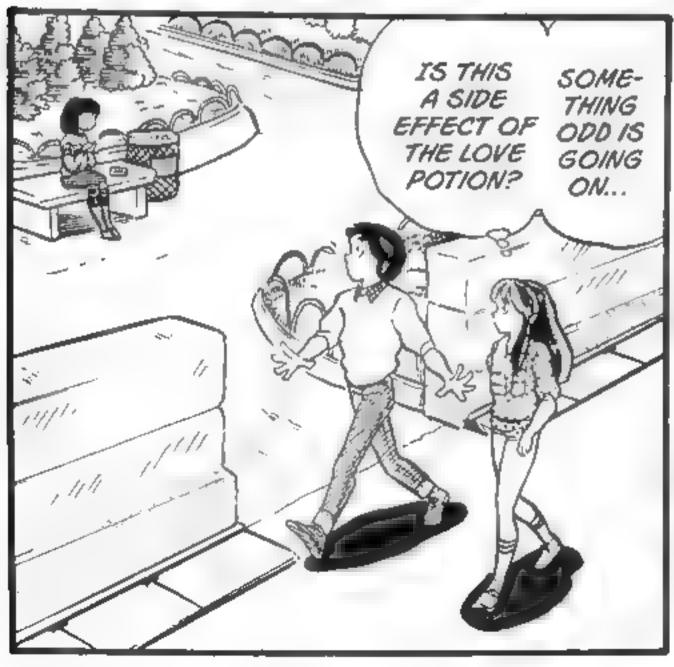
















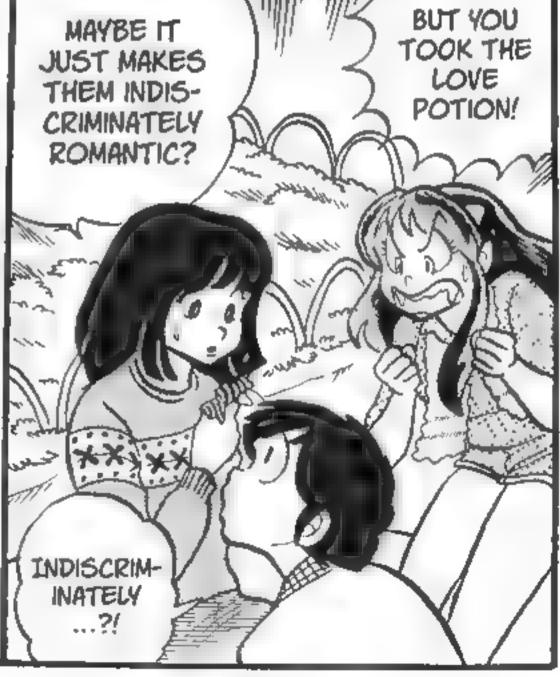


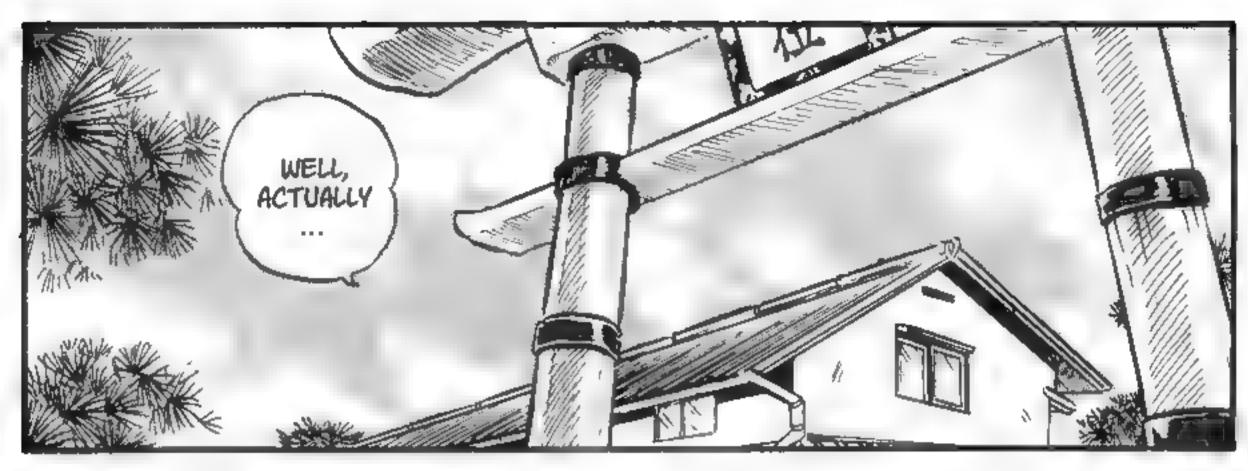






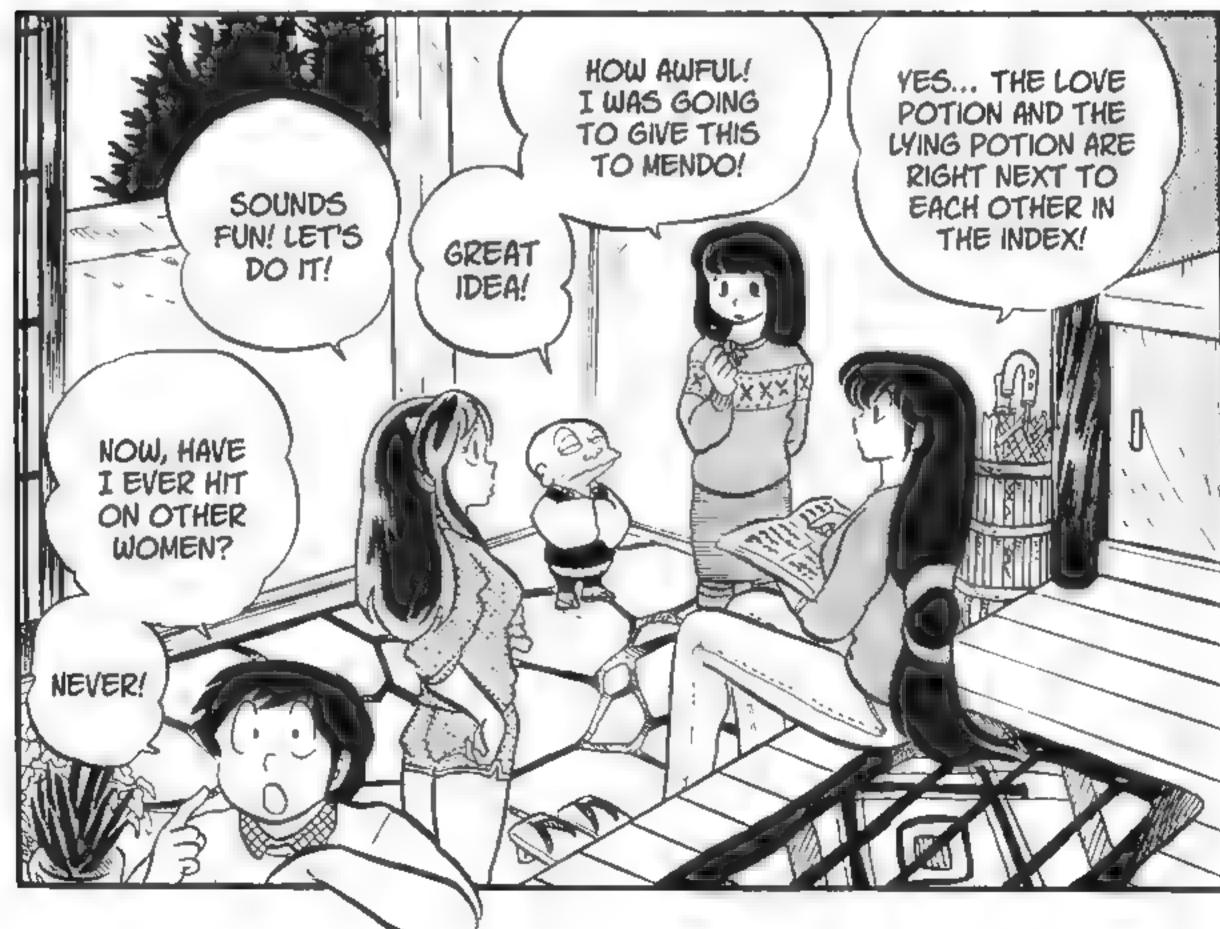




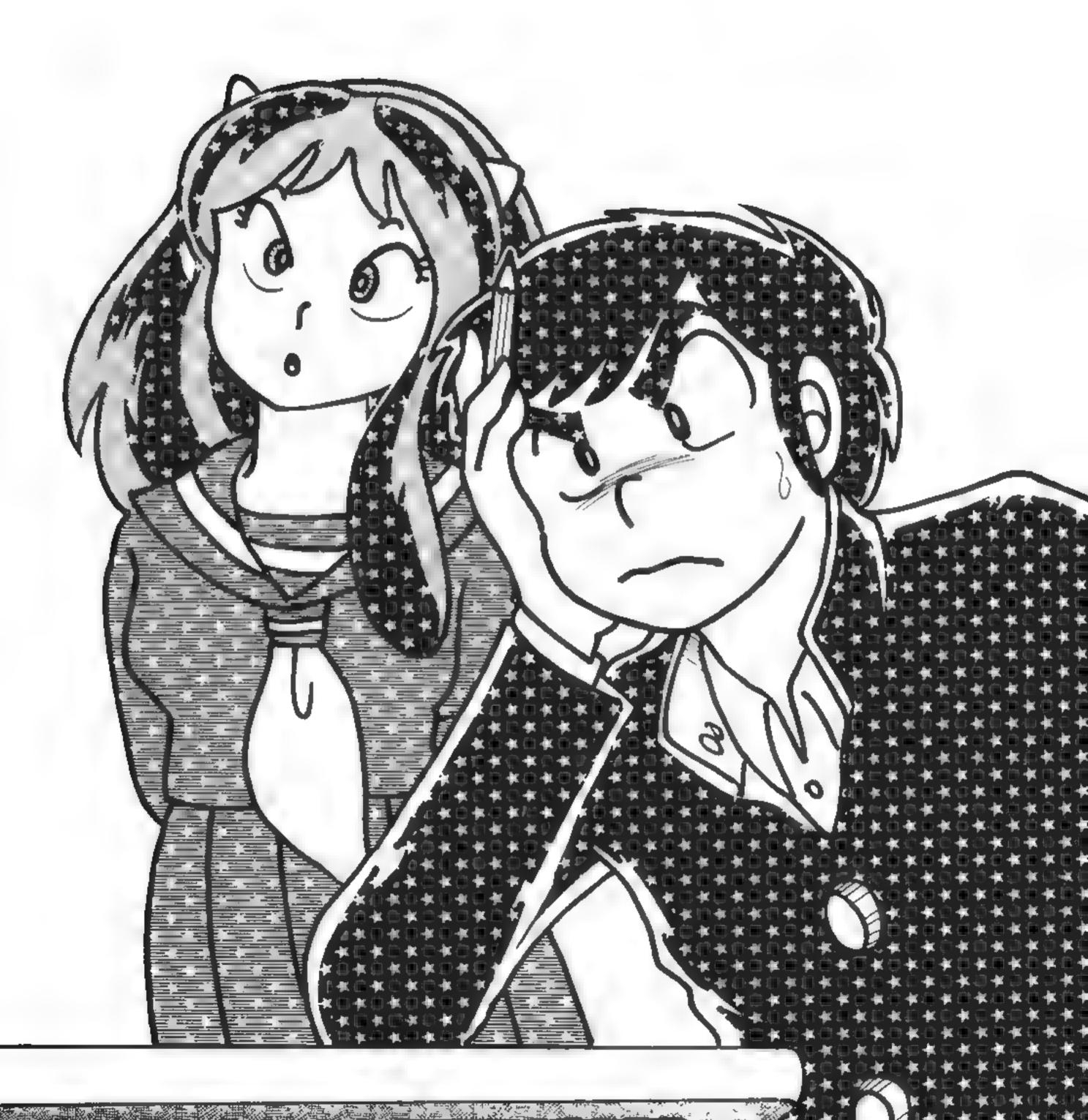




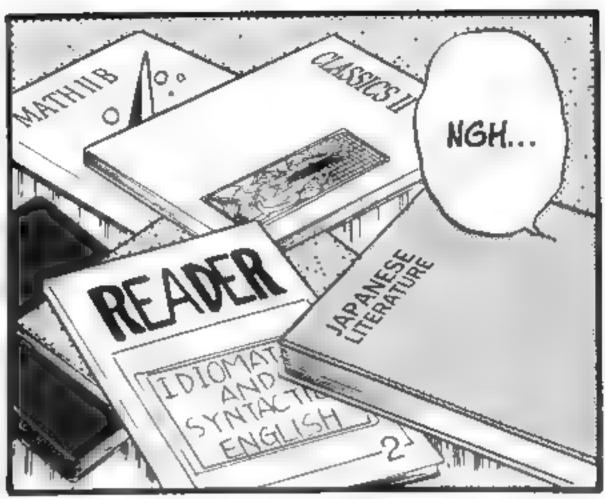


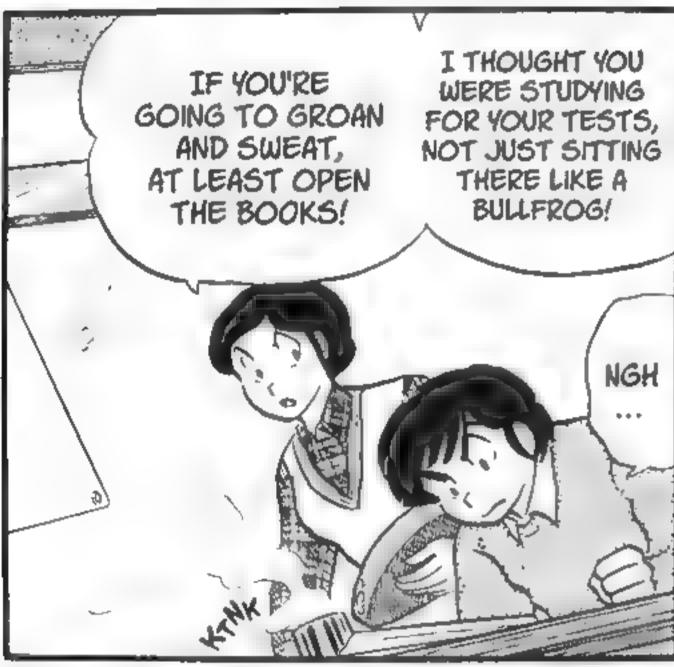


## CHAPTER 2: URGENT PRAYERS!















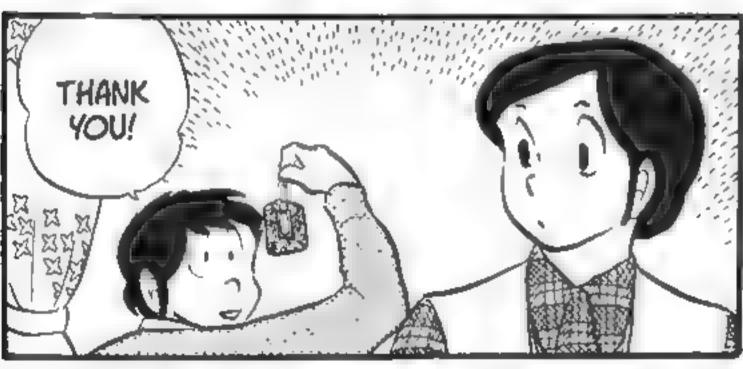






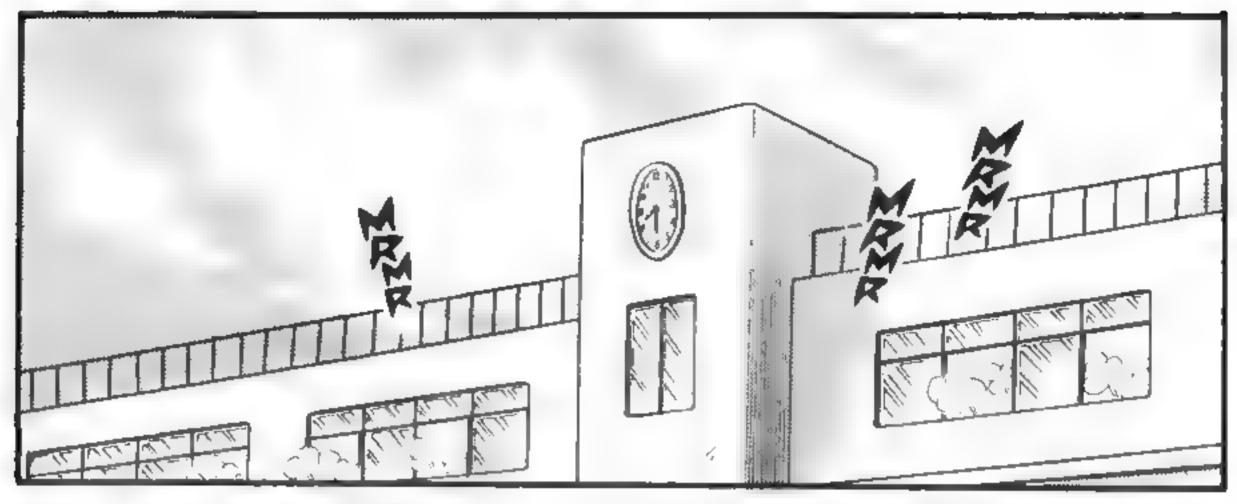






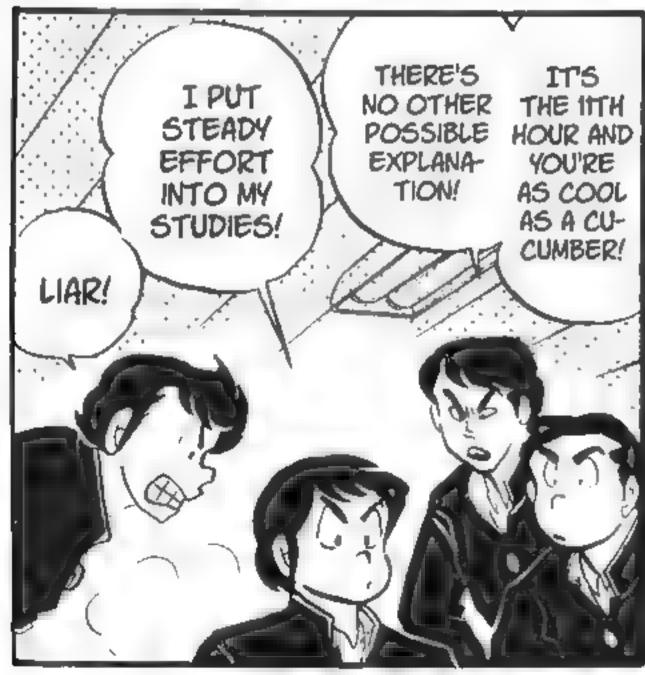












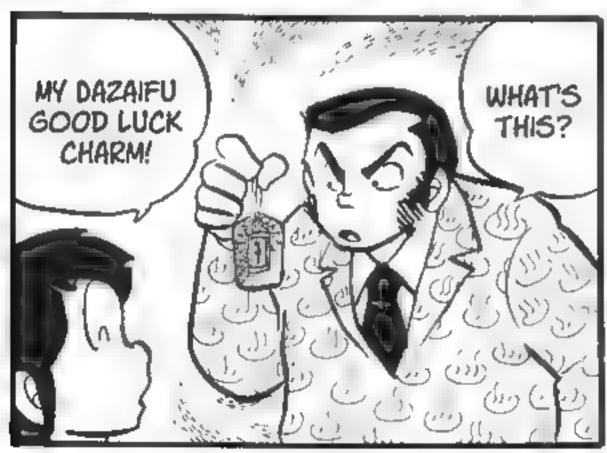
















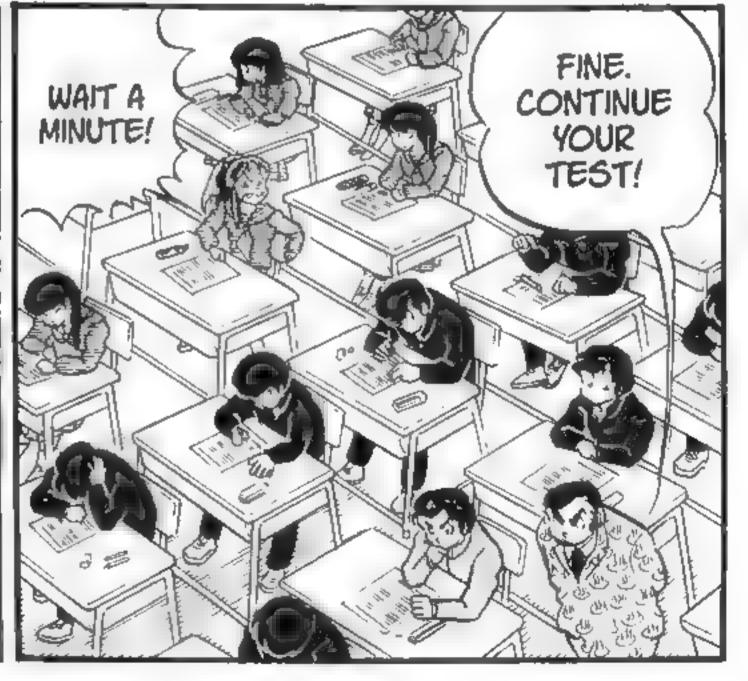












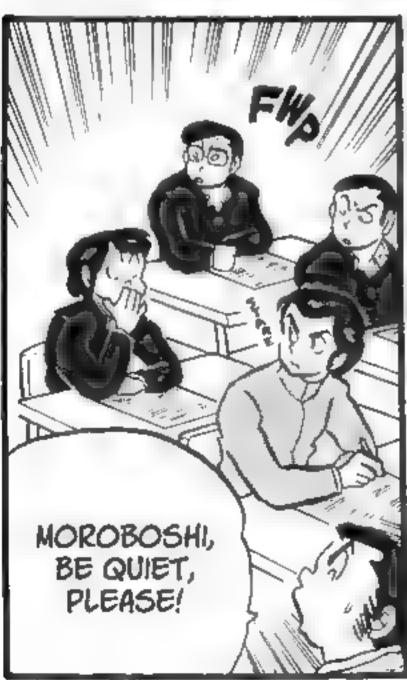














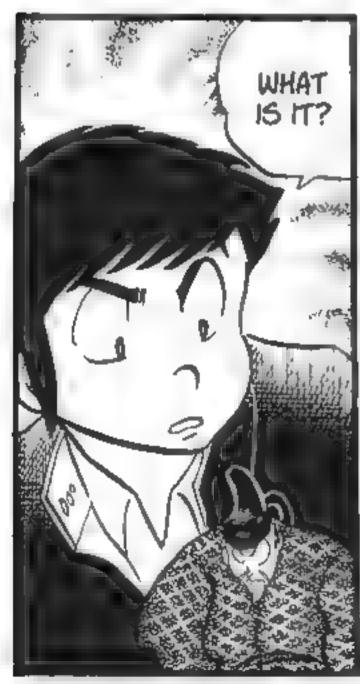


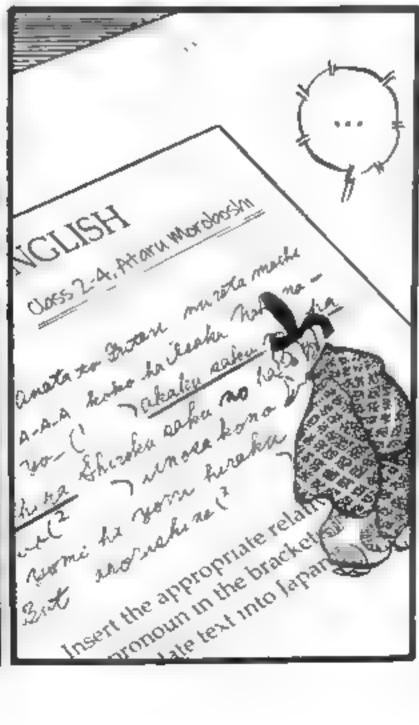
















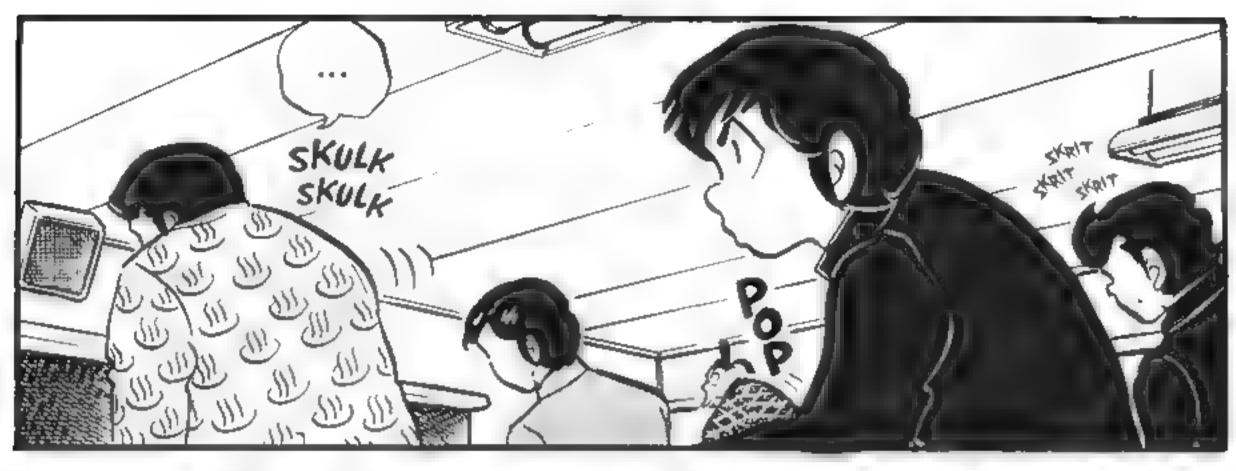




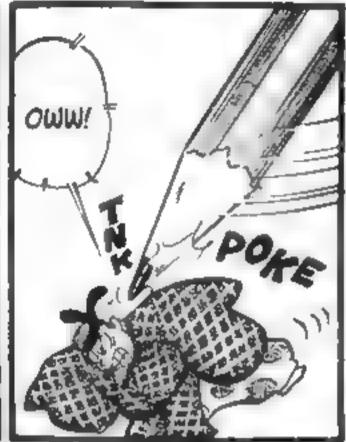




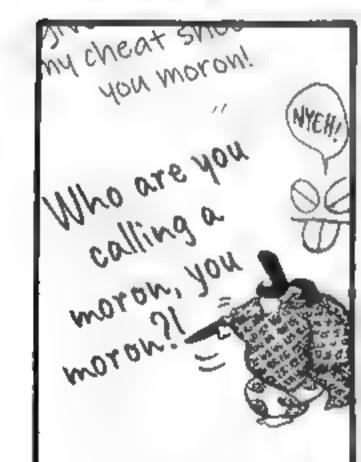




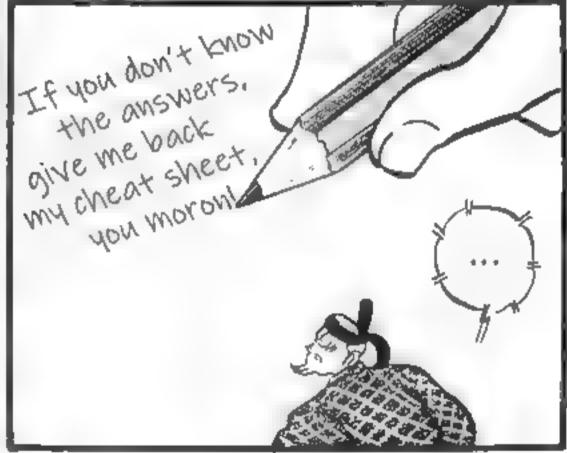




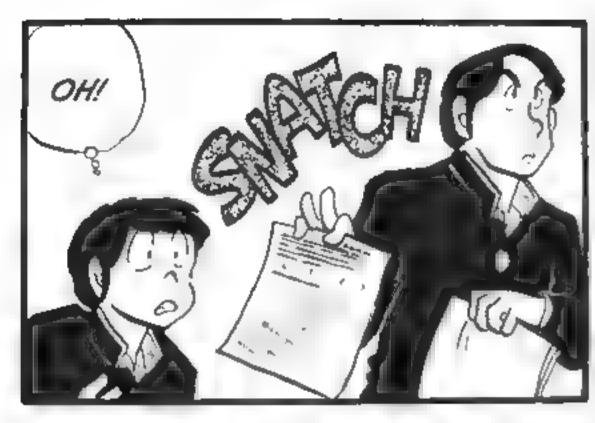




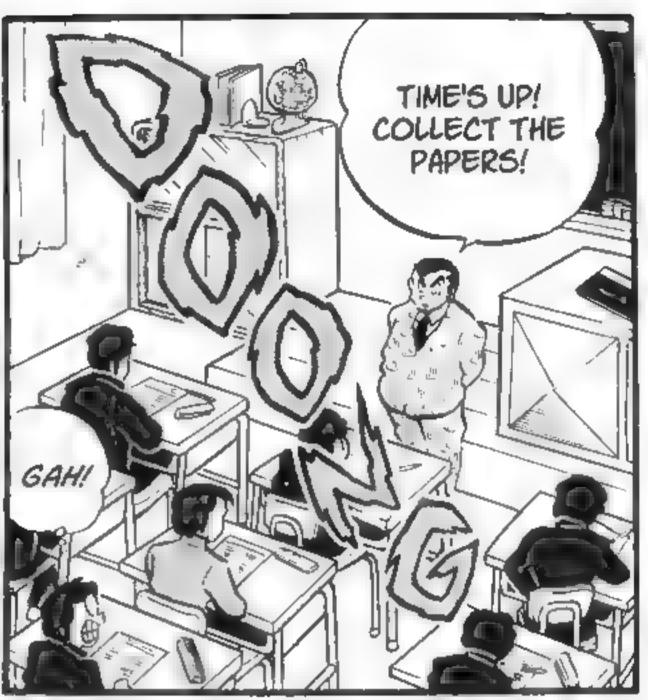
























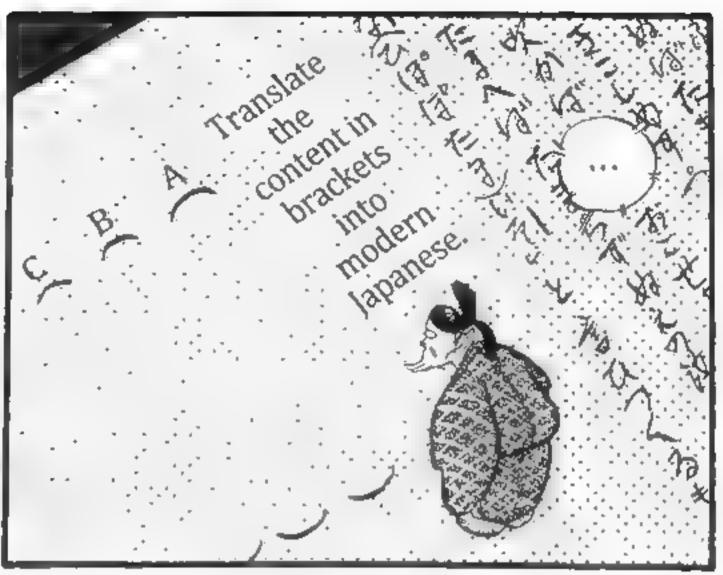








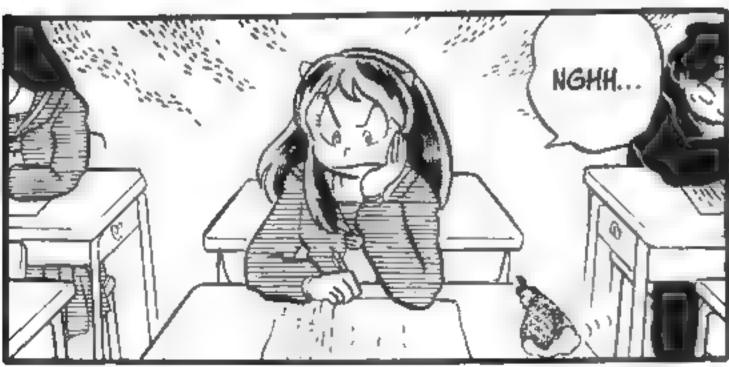






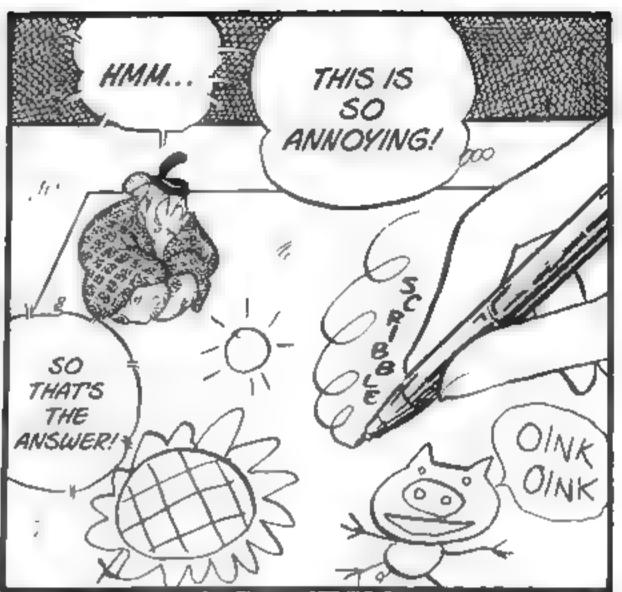




















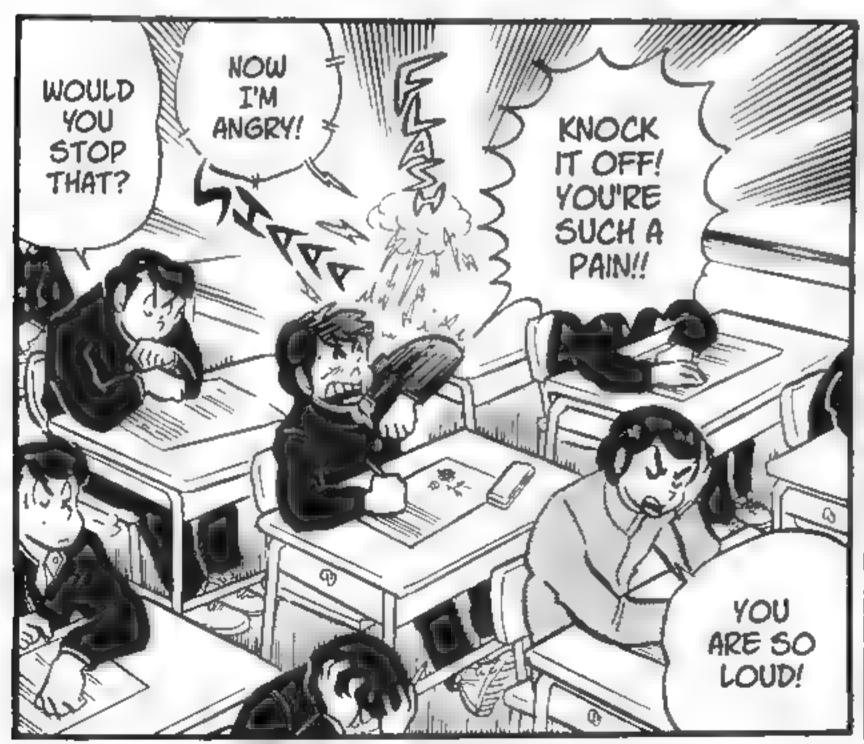




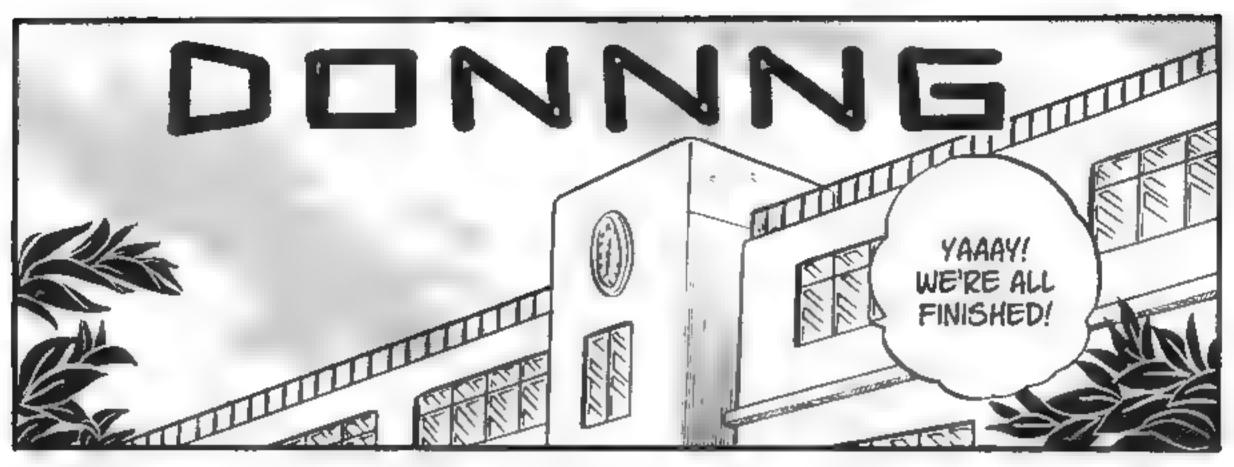








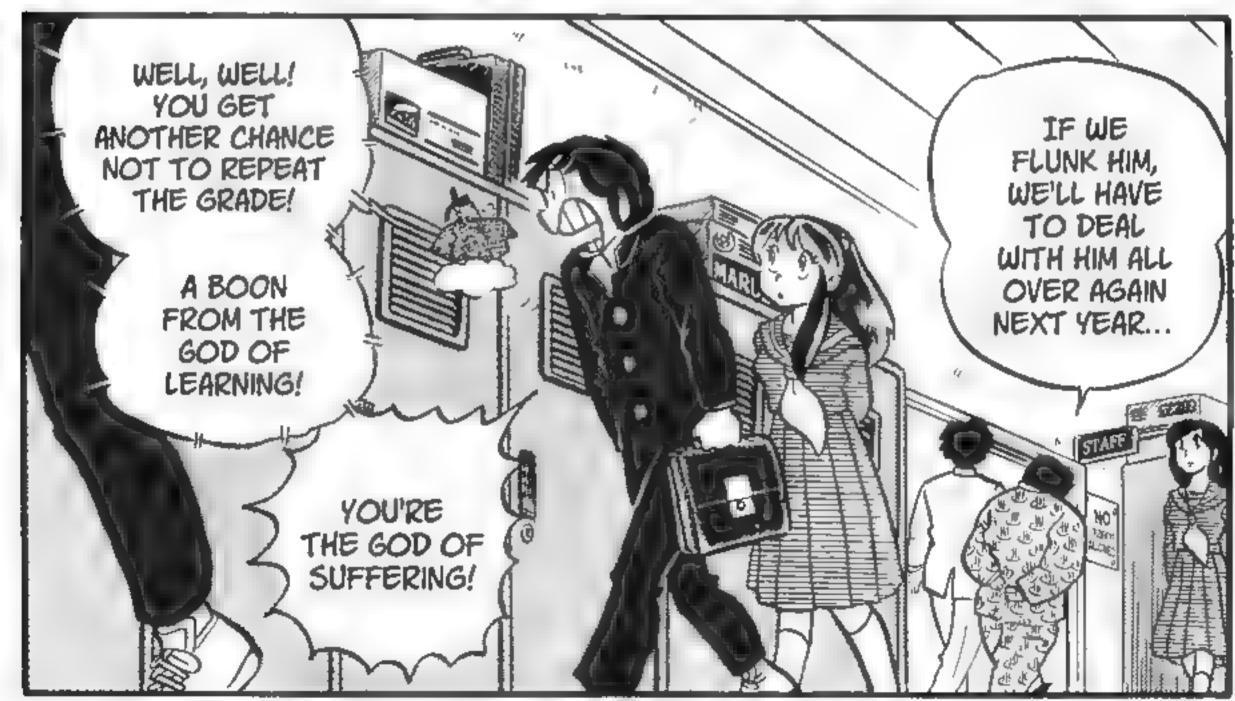






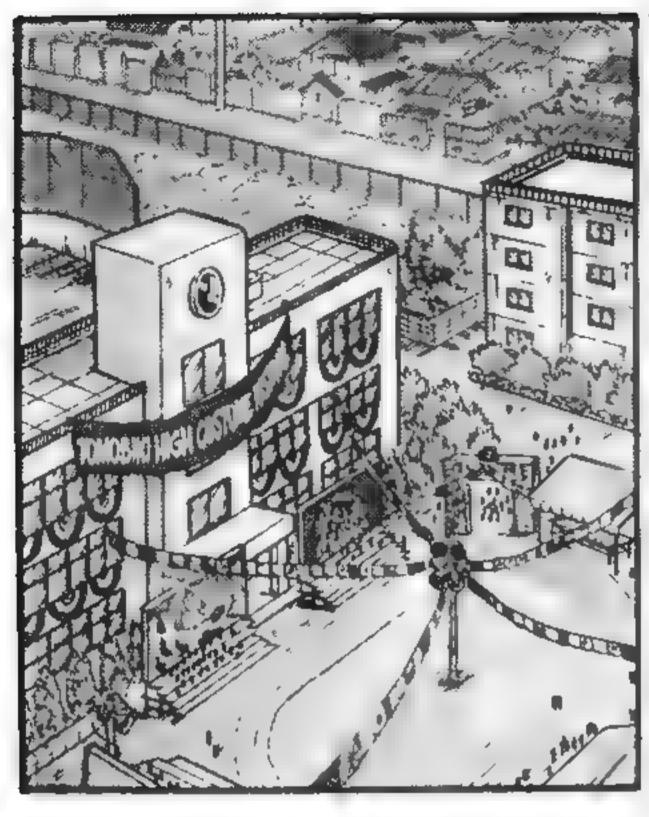






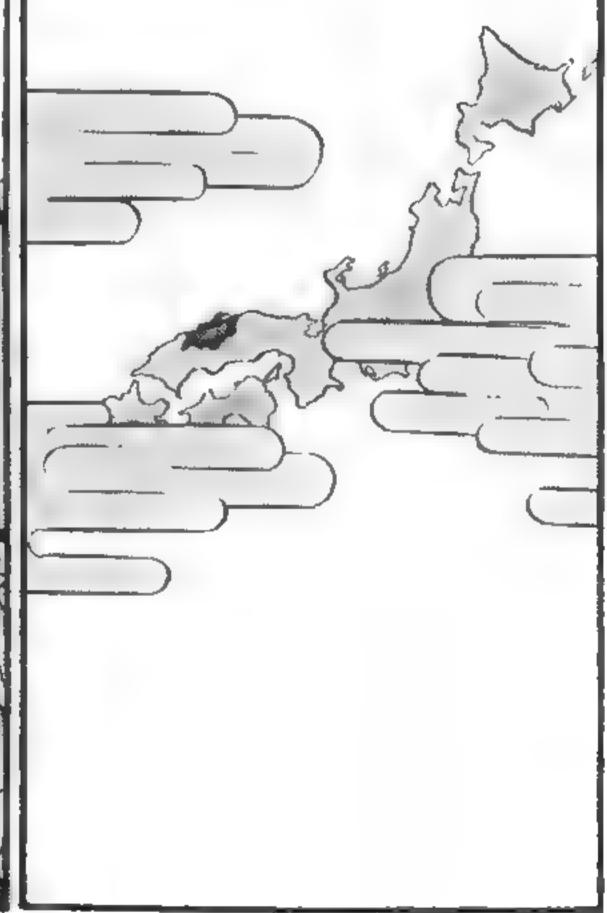






DURING KANNAZUKI,
THE TENTH MONTH,
THE EIGHT MILLION
GODS ALL
CONGREGATE IN
IZUMO PROVINCE,
LEAVING NO GODS
OR BUDDHAS IN THE
REST OF JAPAN...





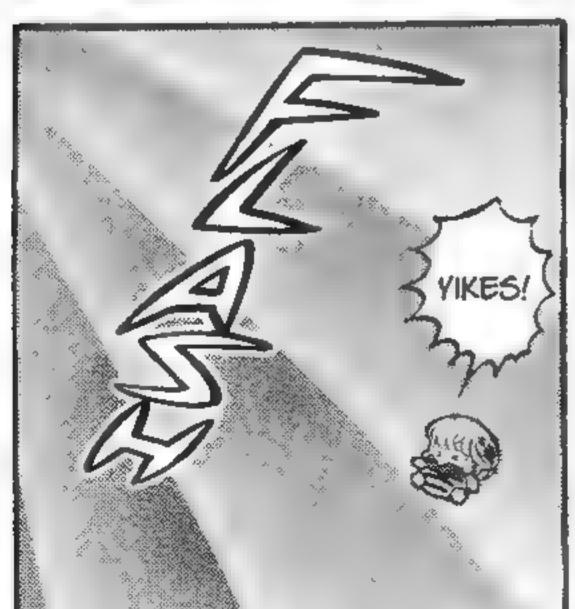


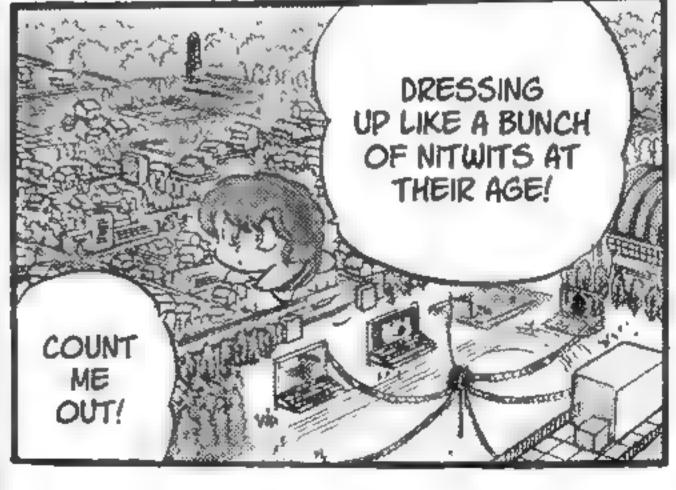


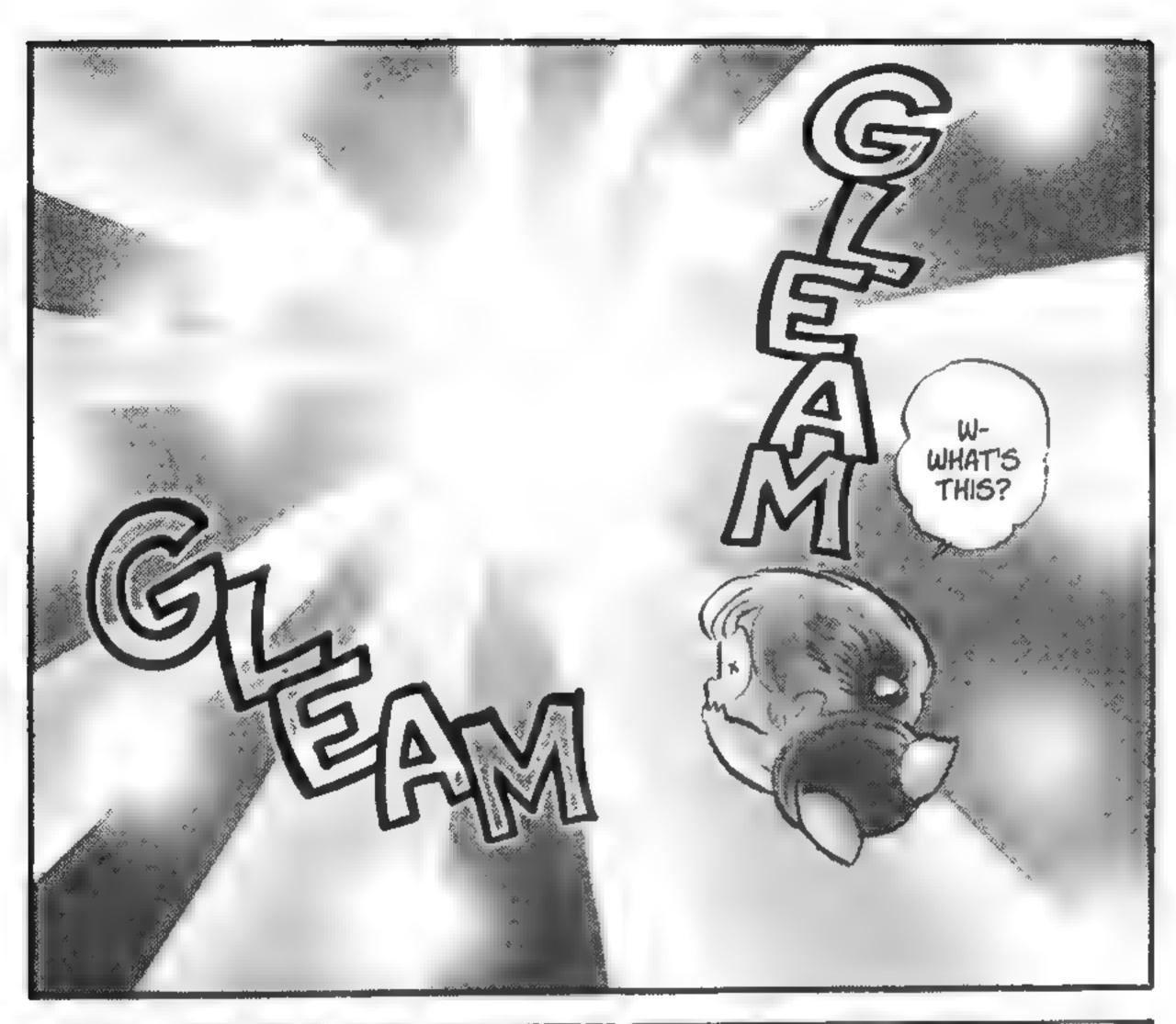
























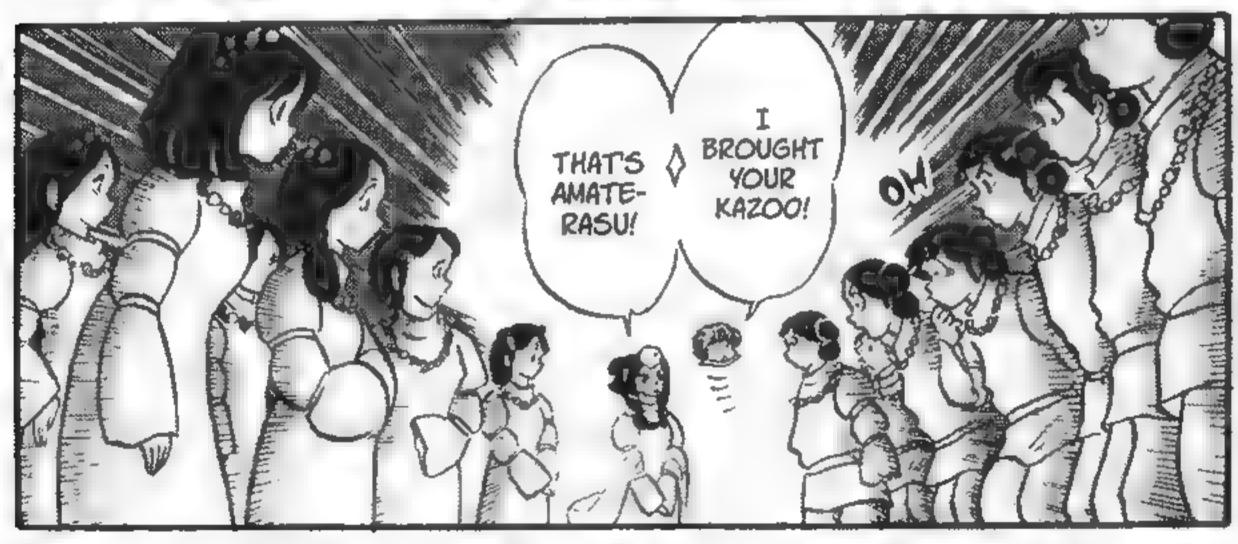








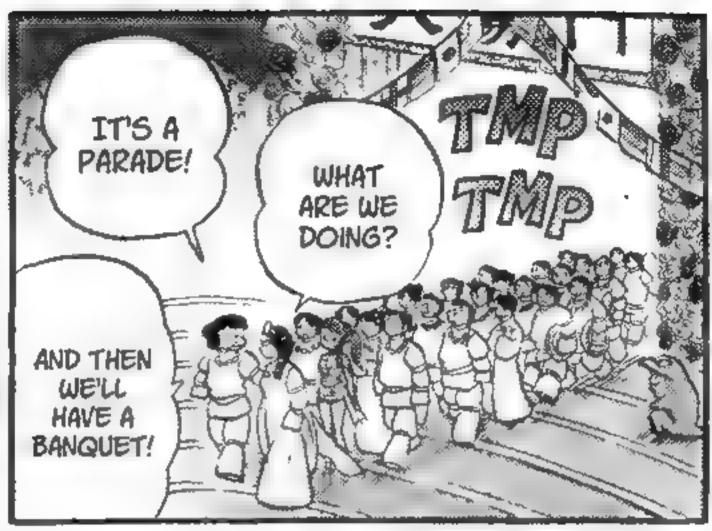






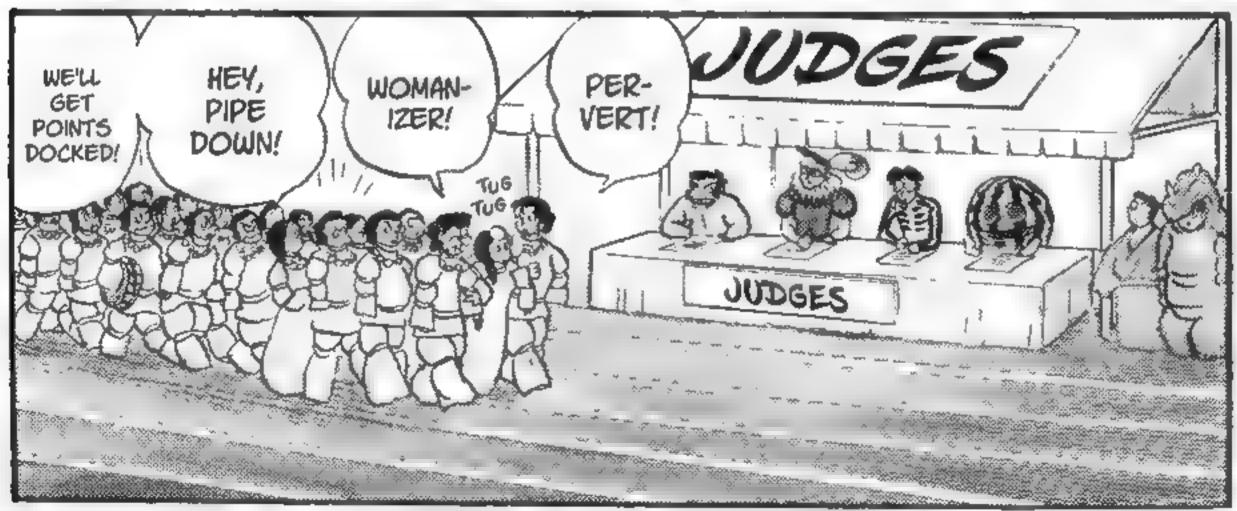






























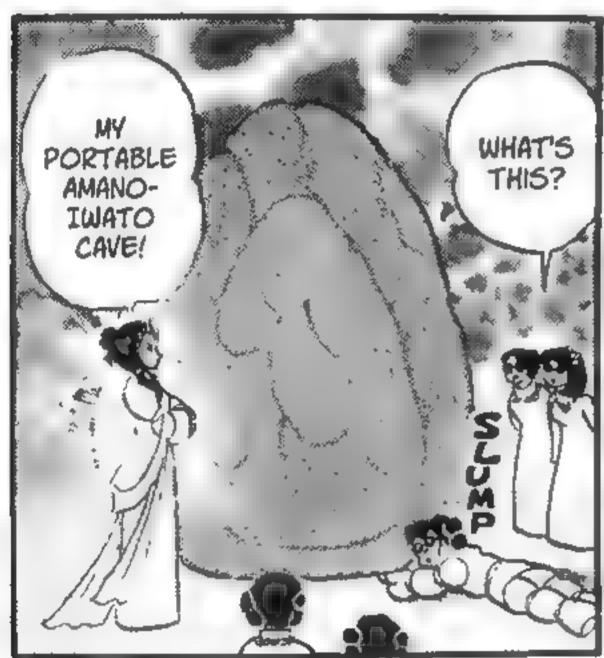








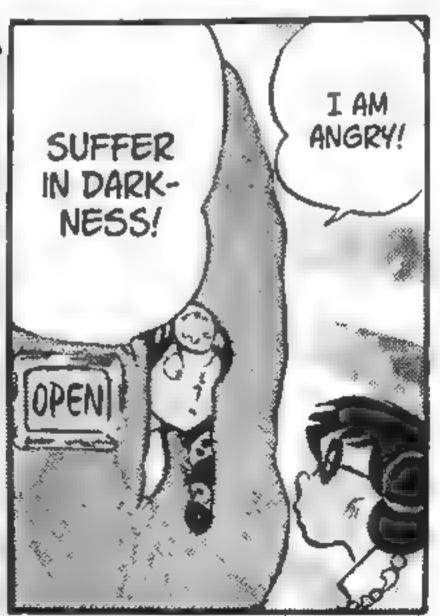


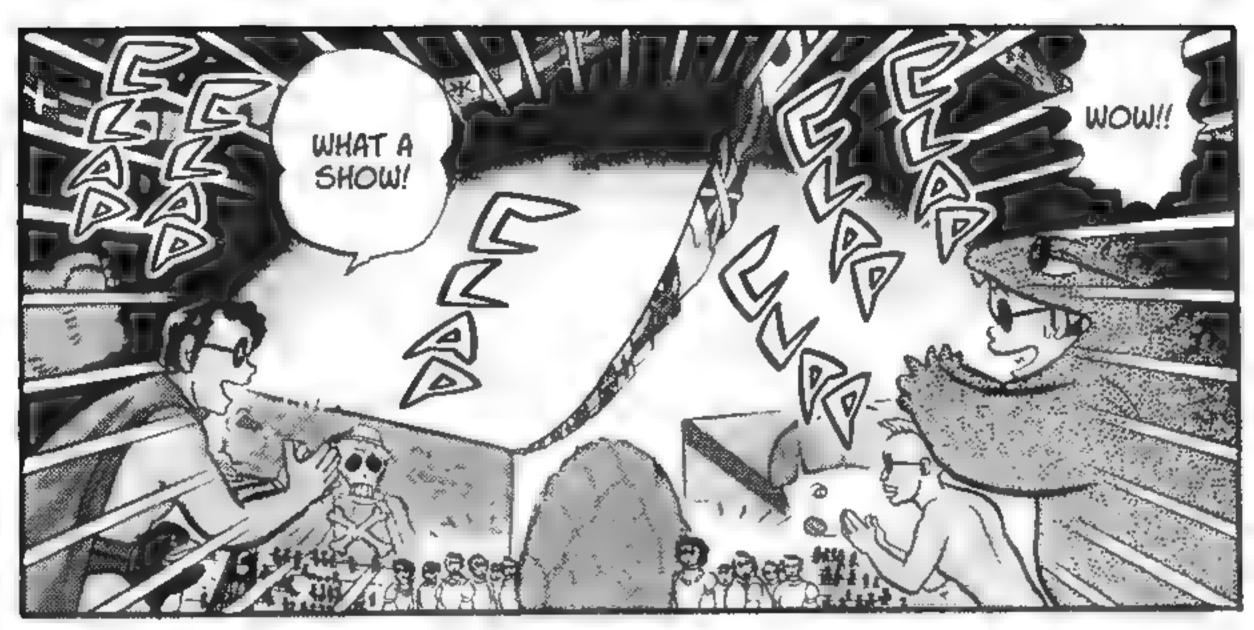






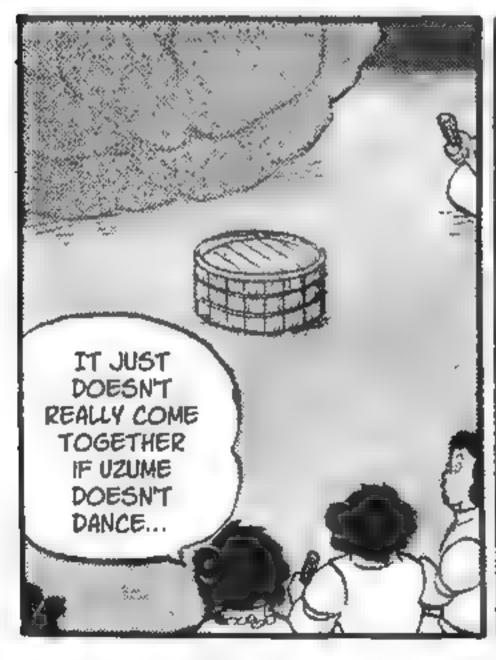


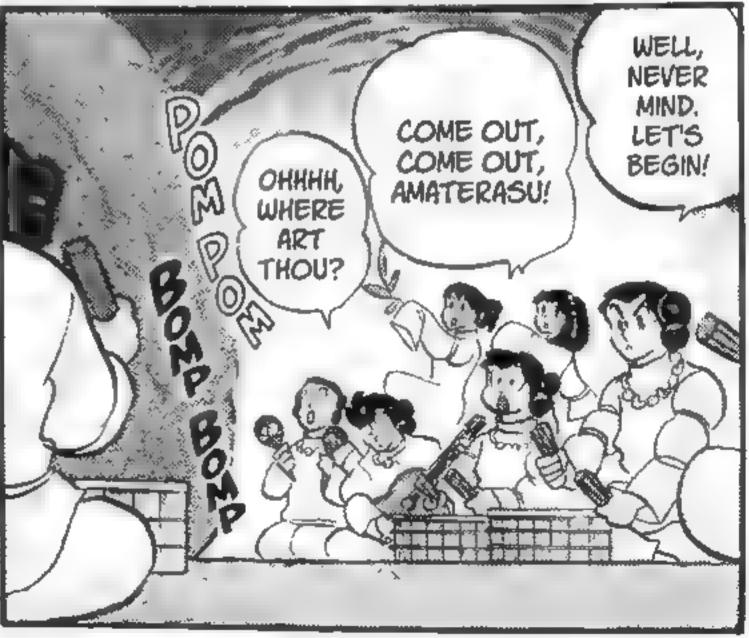






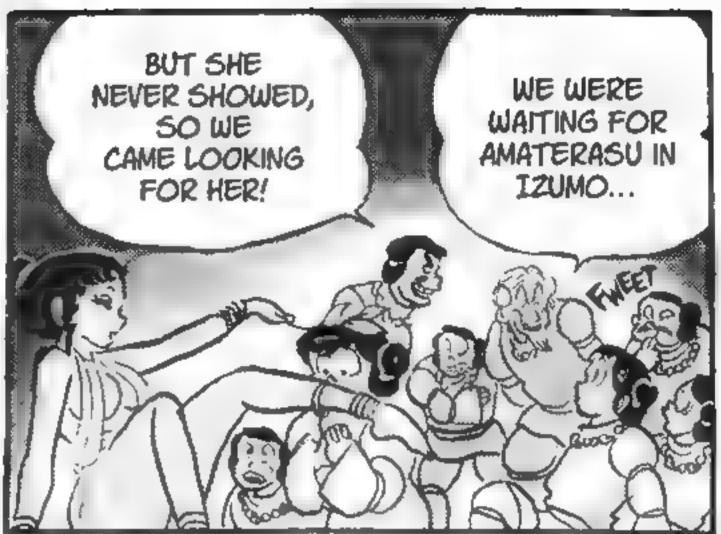














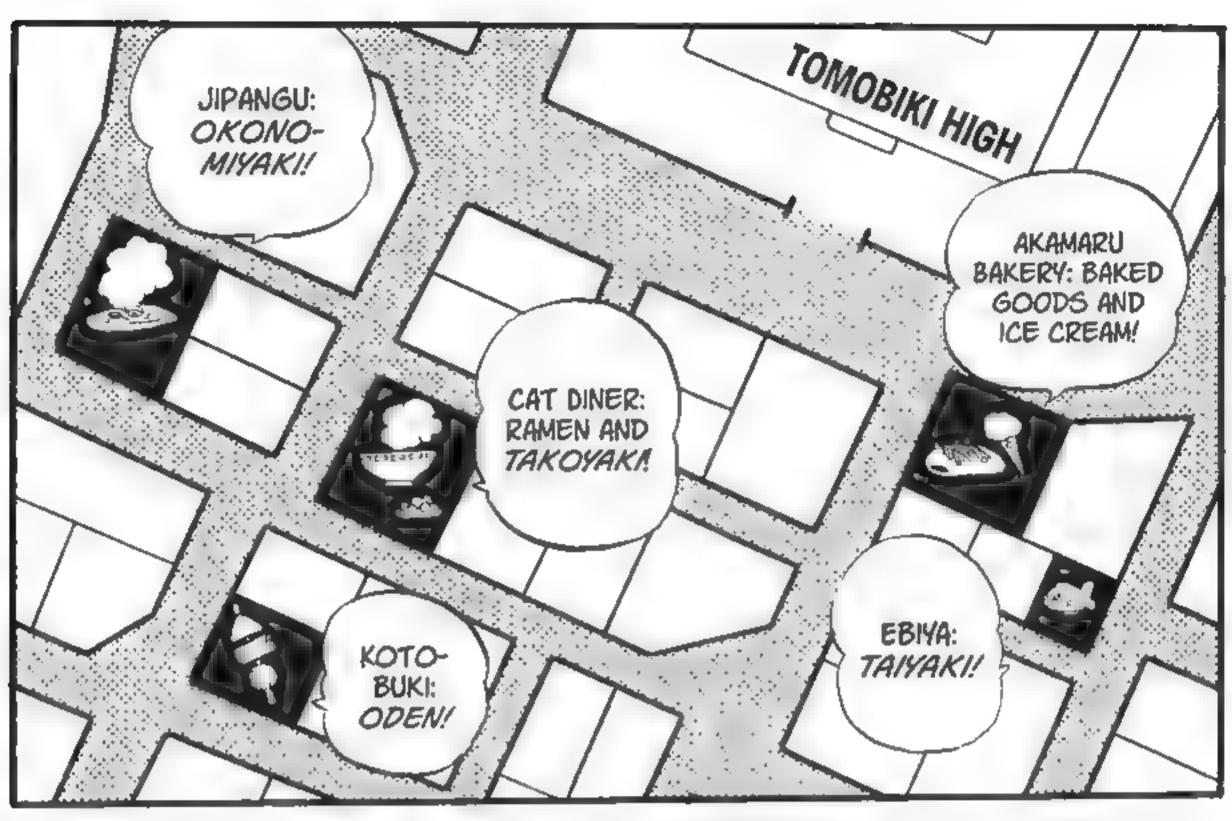






CHAPTER 4: THE GREAT OFF-CAMPUS SNACK BATTLE



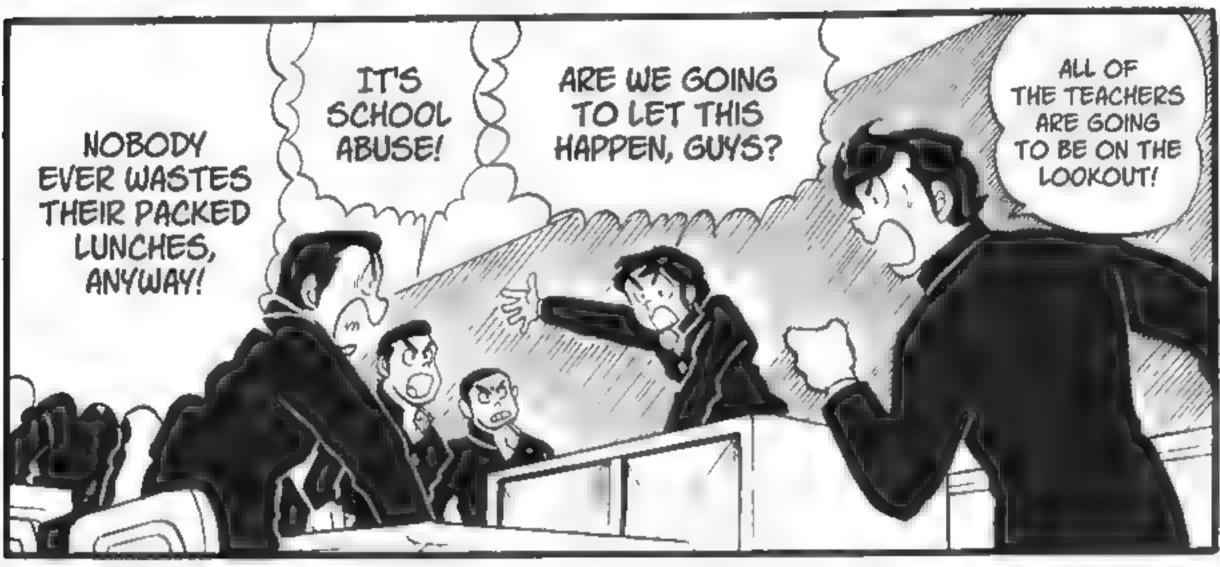






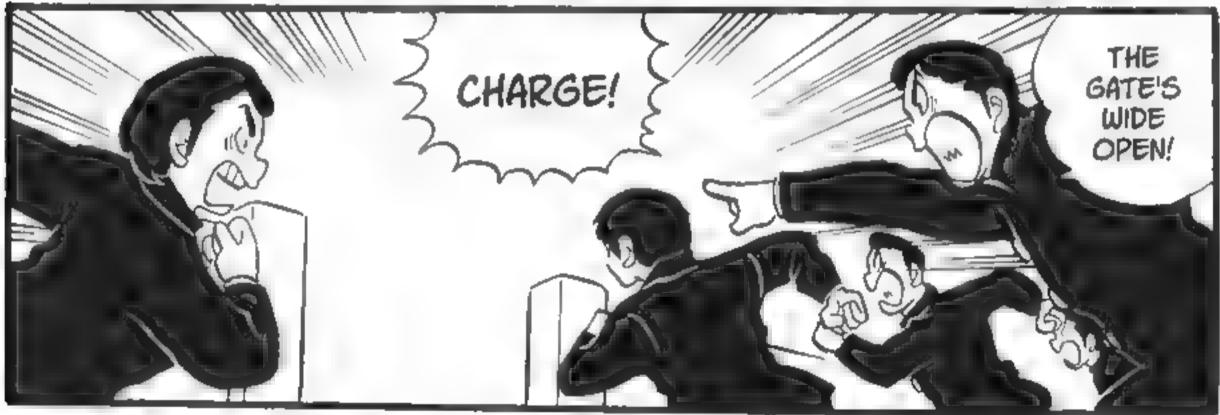


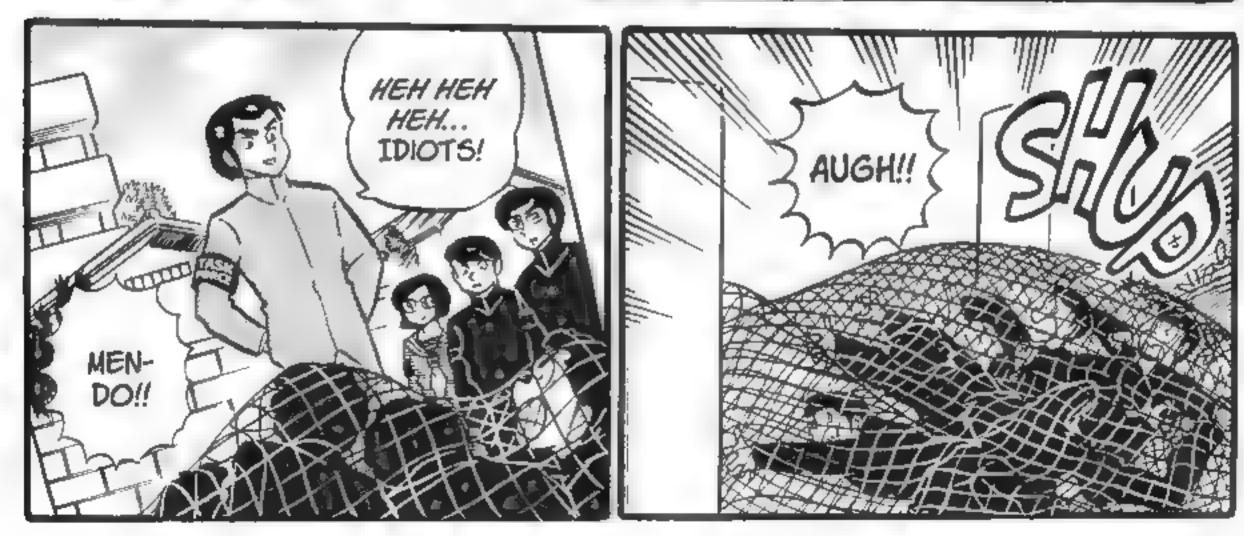












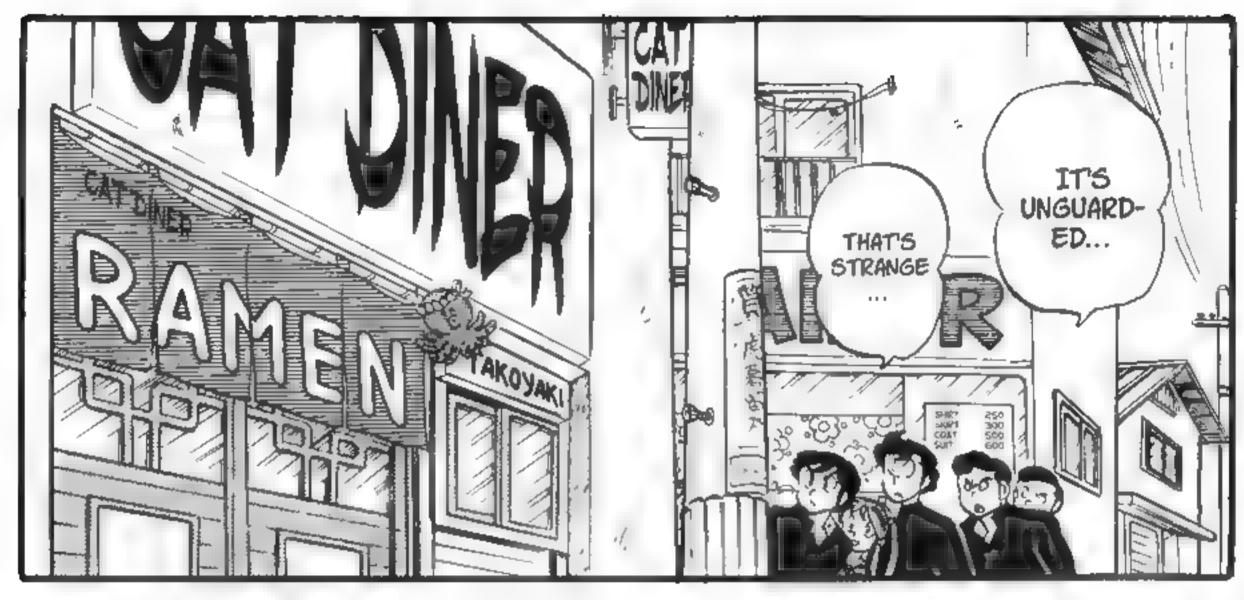


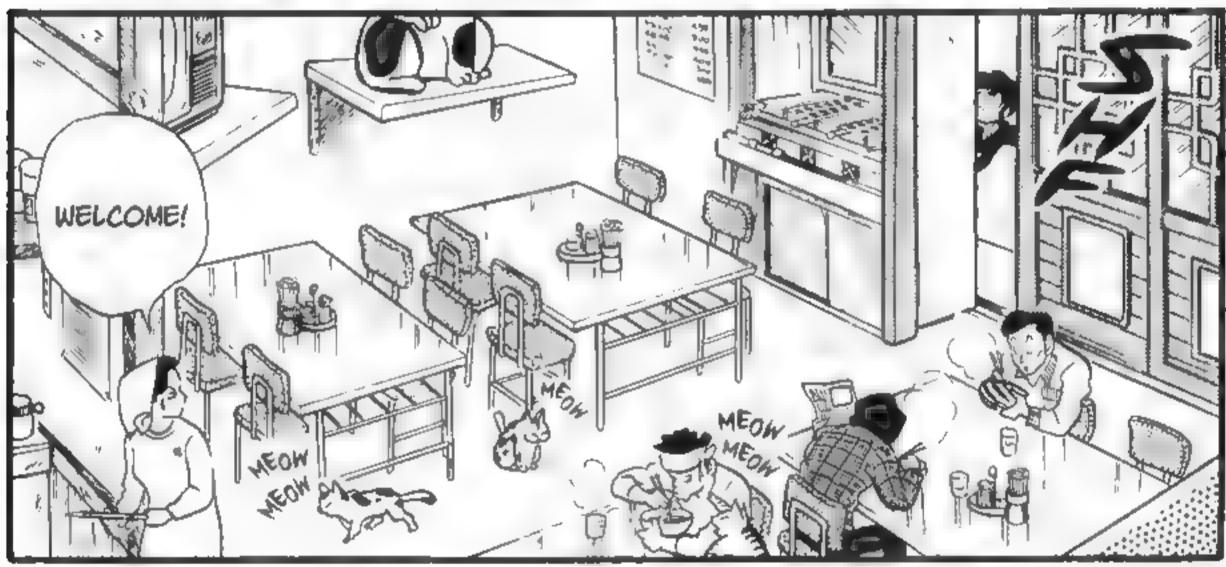
























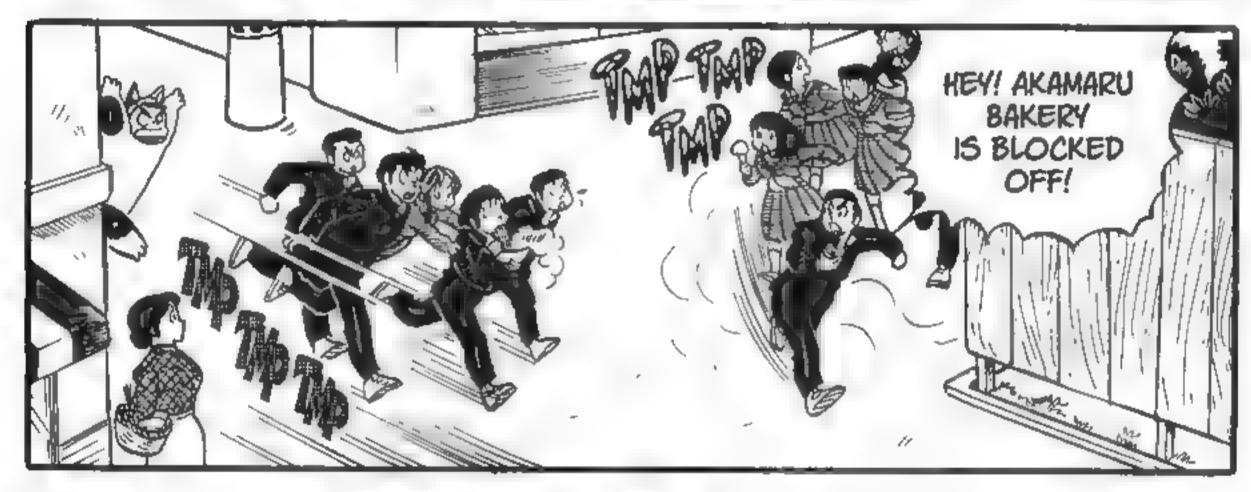












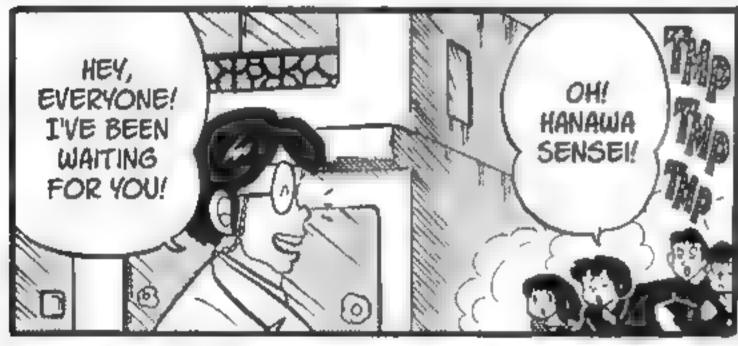






















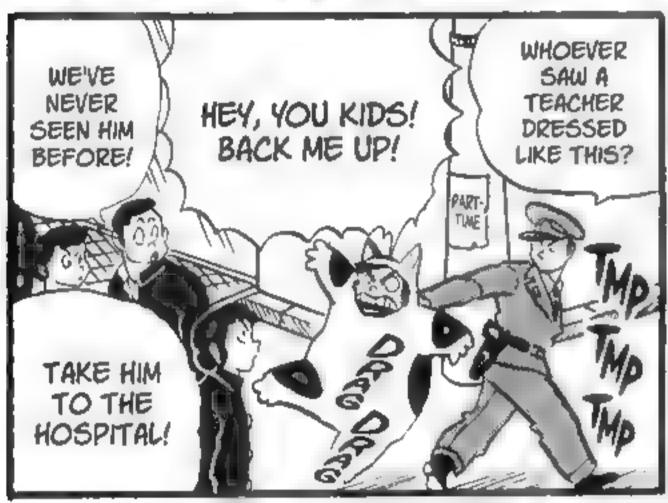




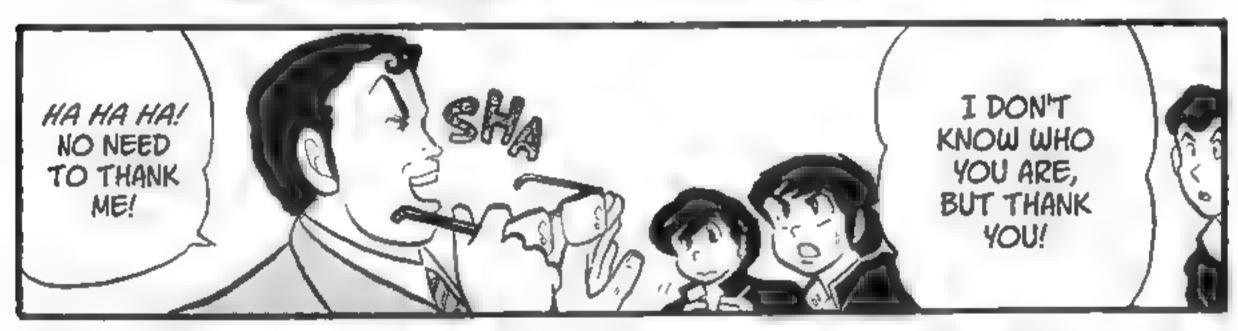








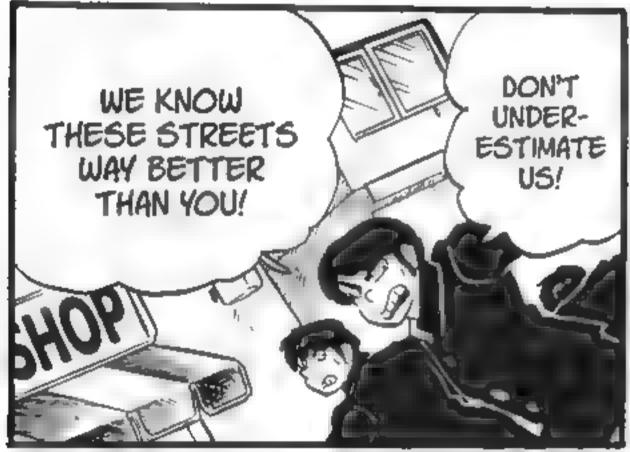








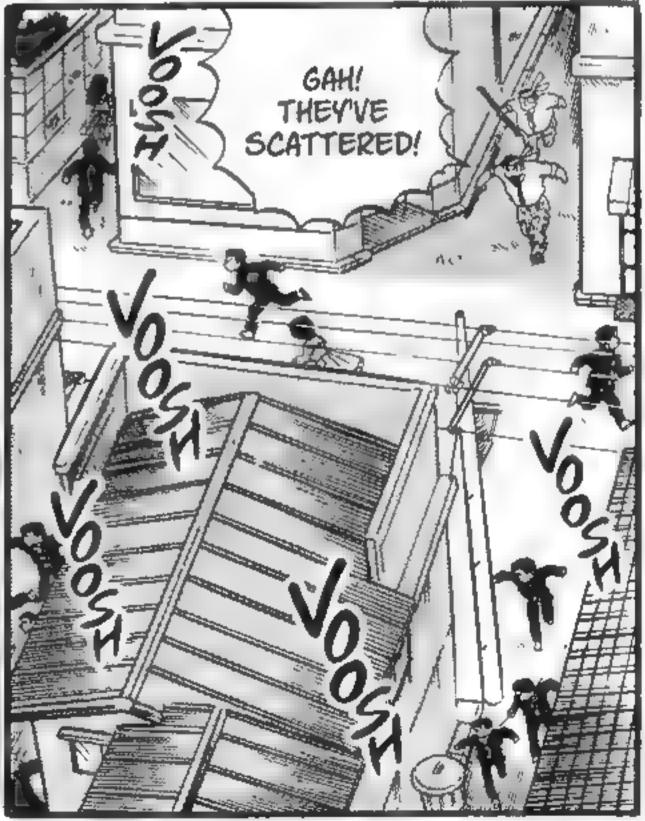






























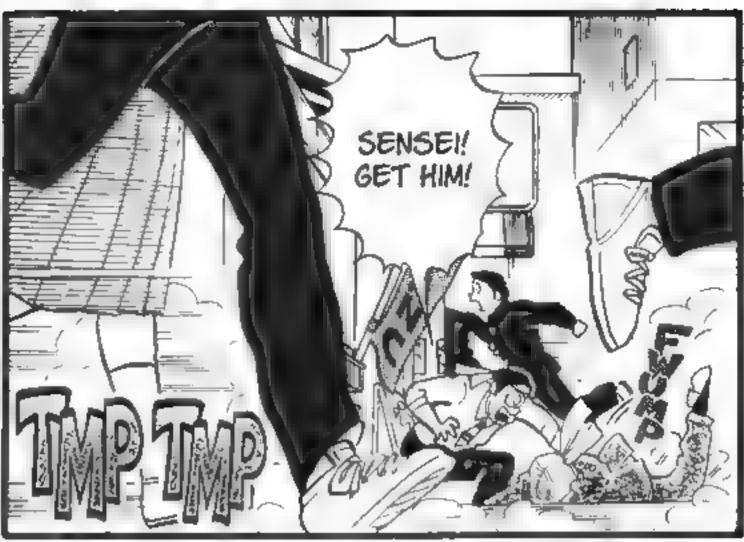




























AND THUS,
THE SUN DESCENDED
ON THE FIRST DAY OF
THE GREAT SNACK
CRACKDOWN...

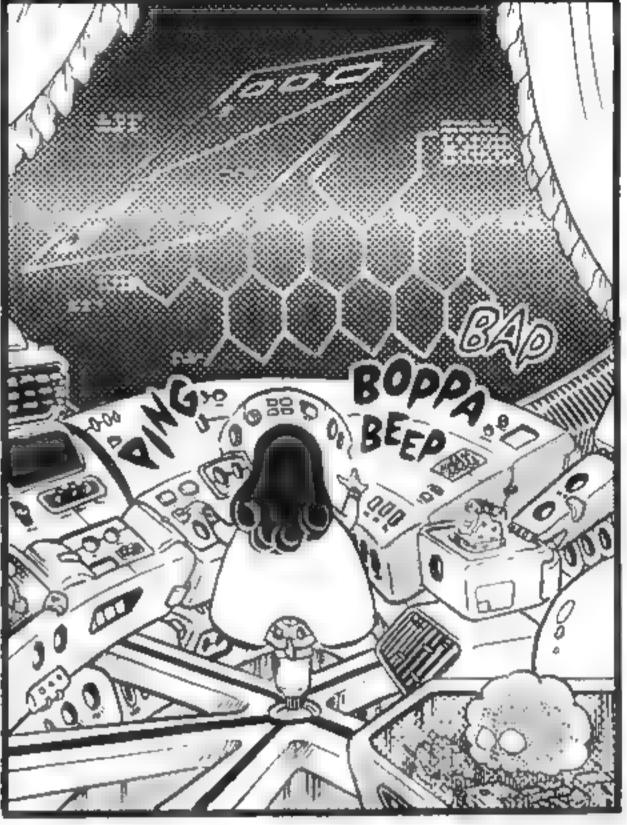


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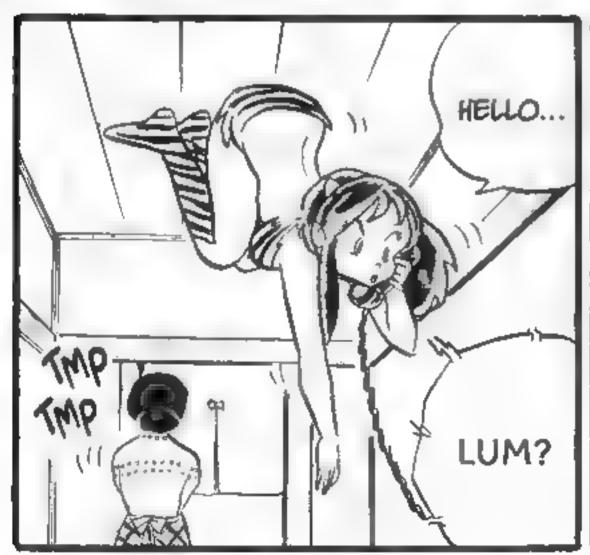
































































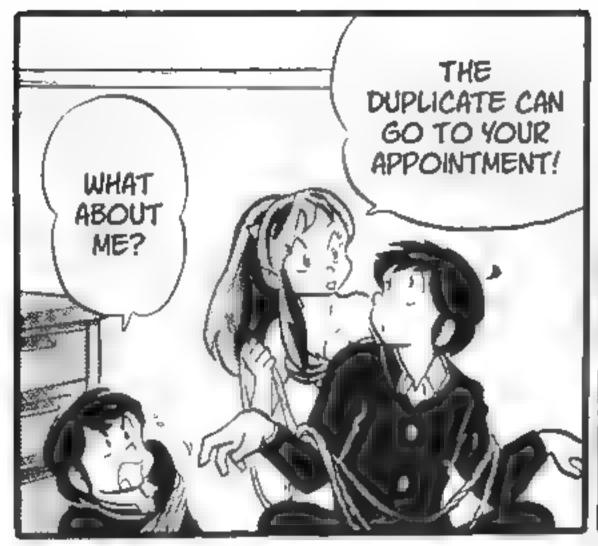


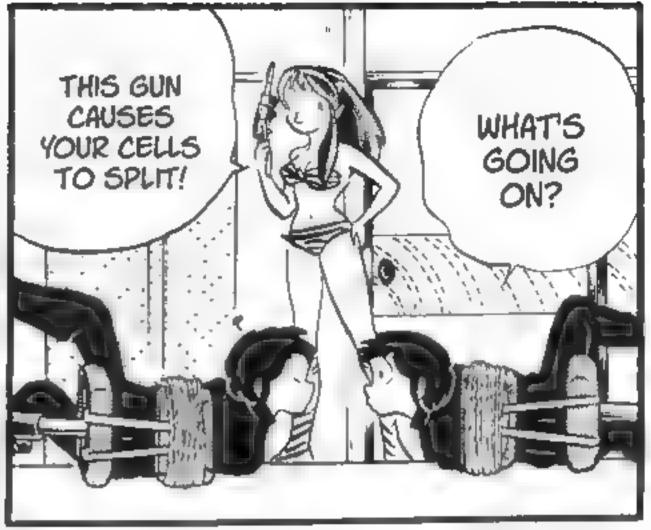
















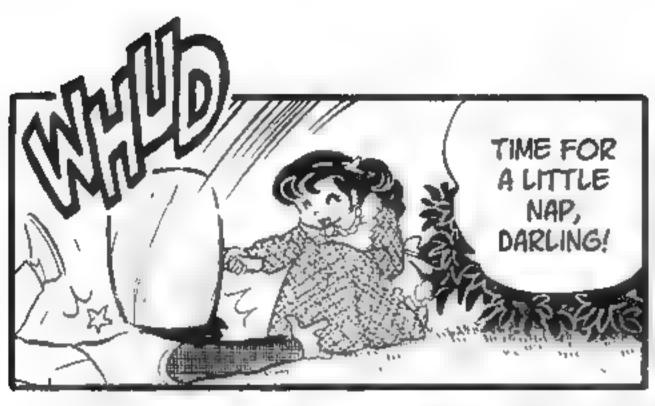








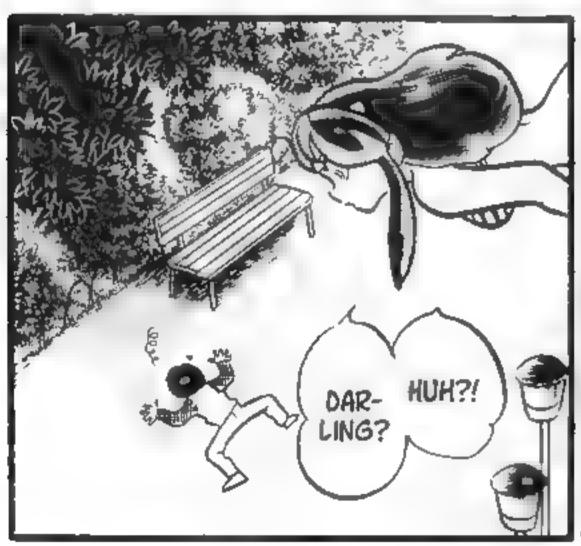


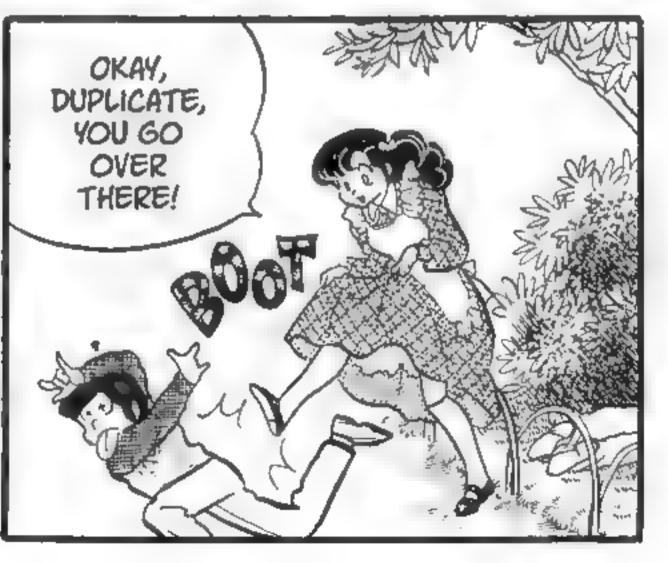






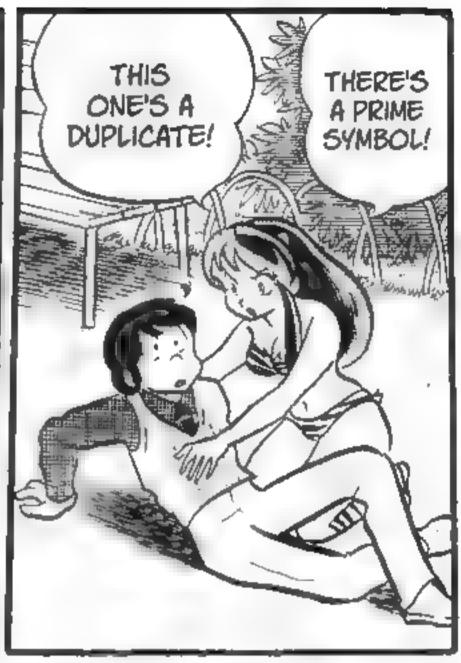
































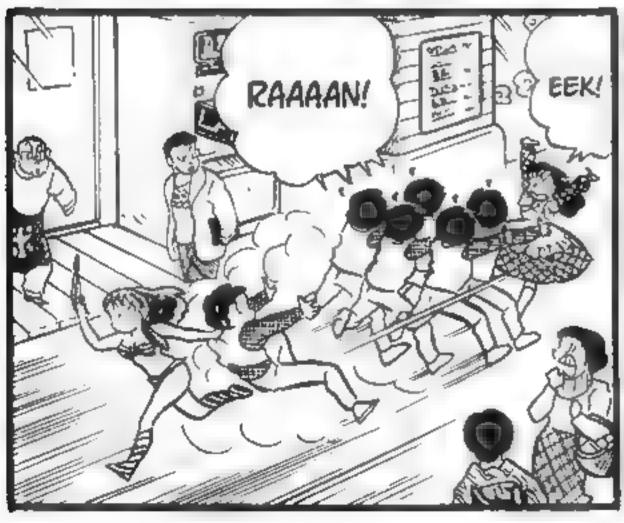










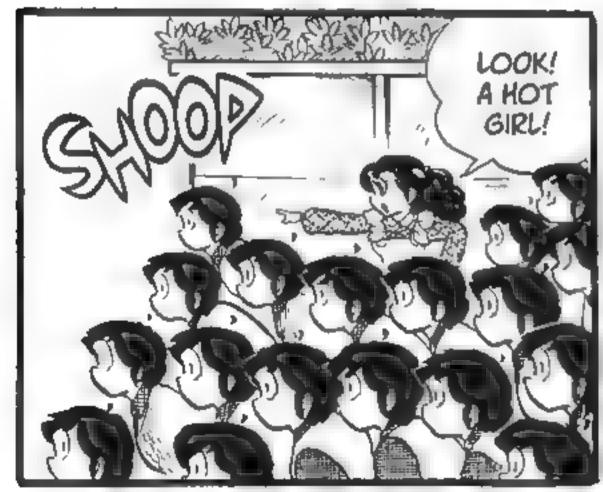


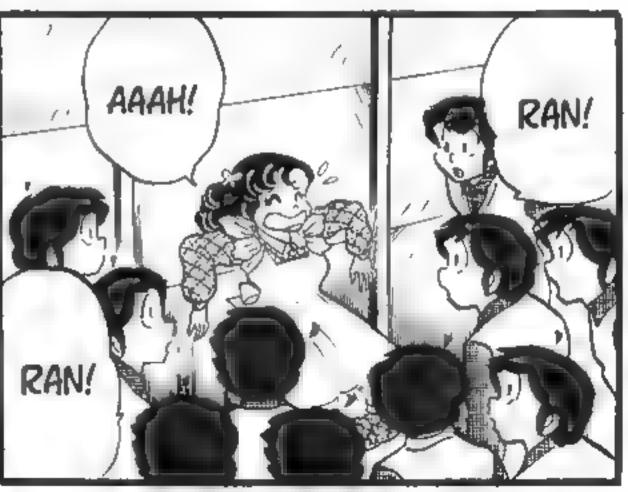




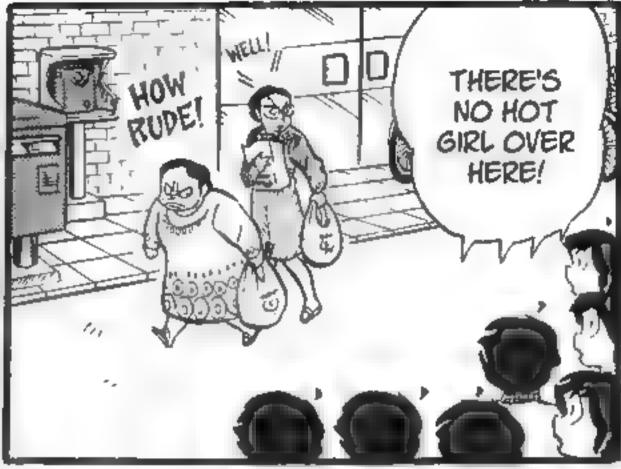




















## CHAPTER 6: THOSE WERE THE DAYS, PC!





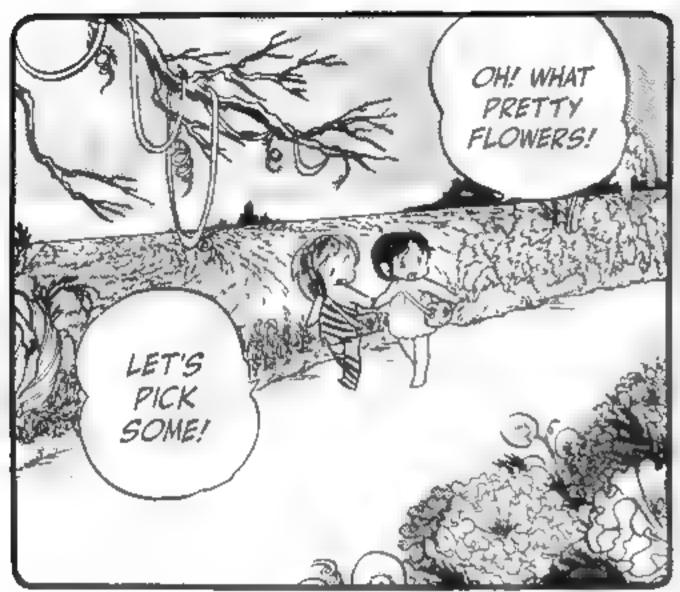










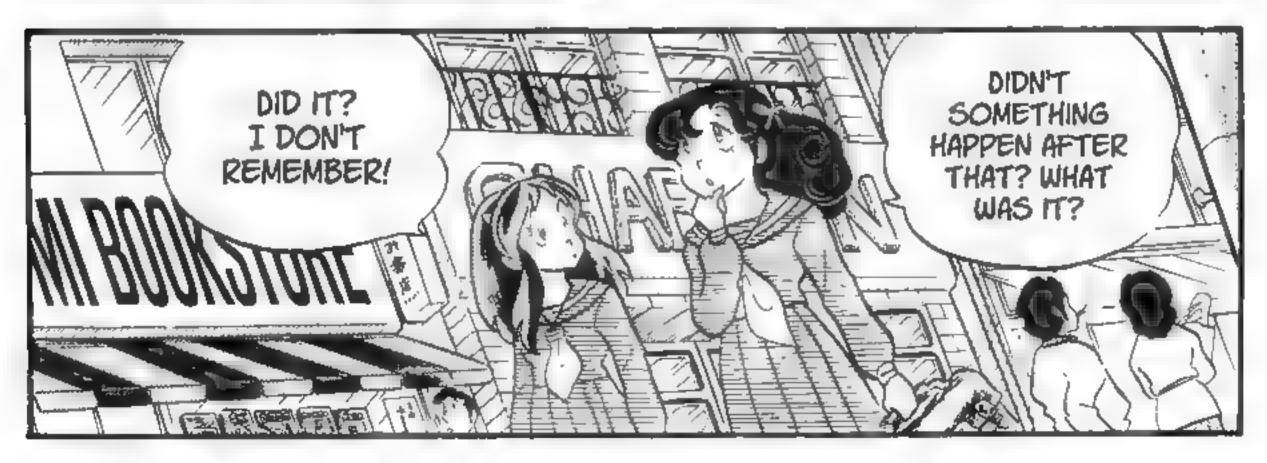












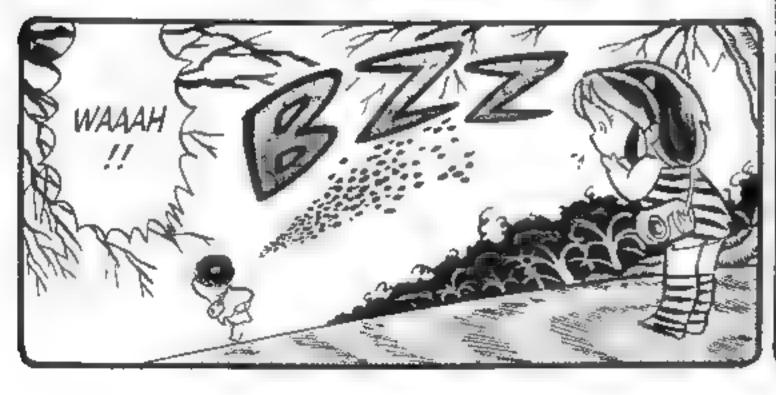














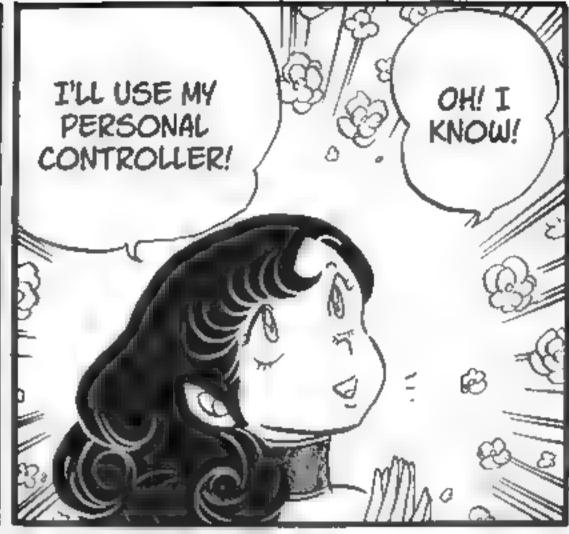




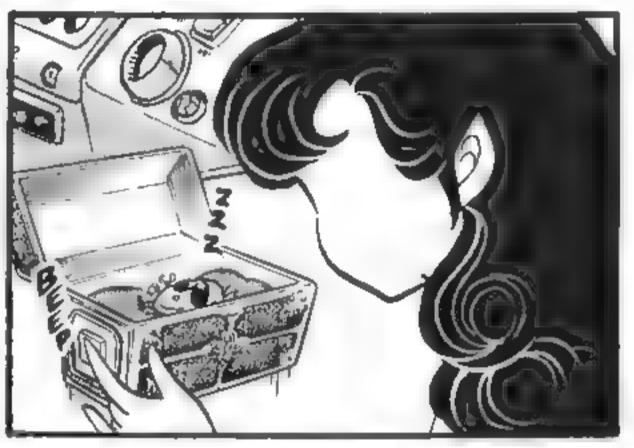












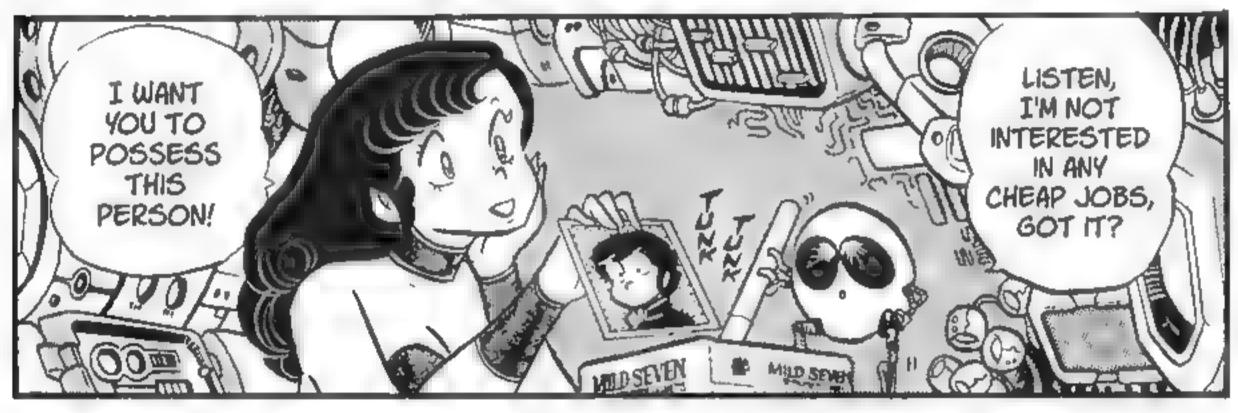


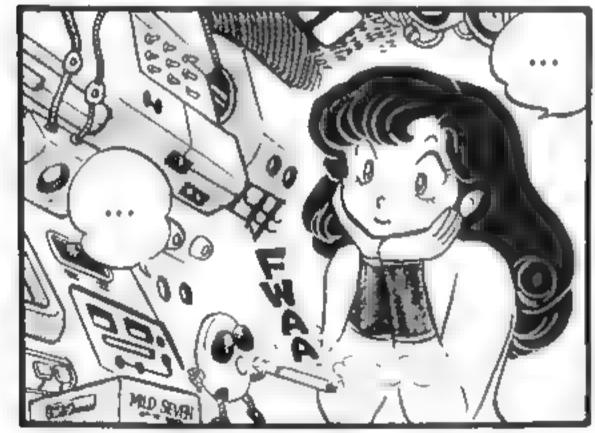






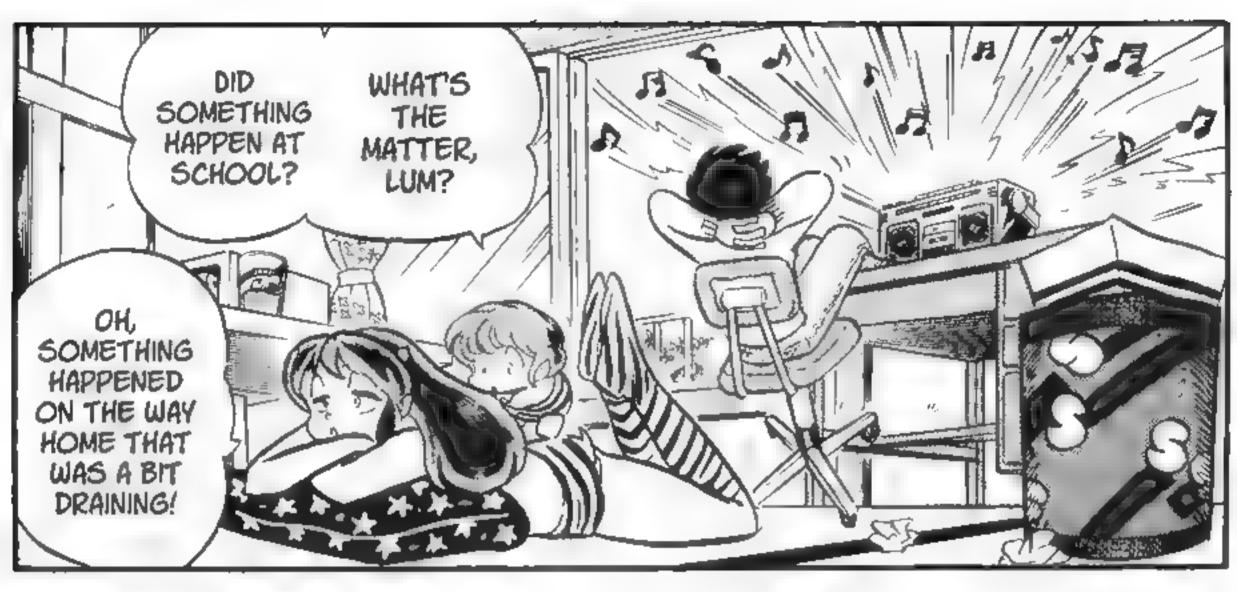








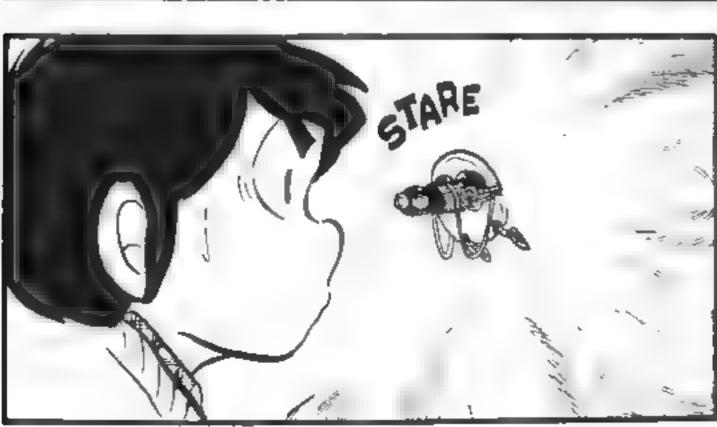










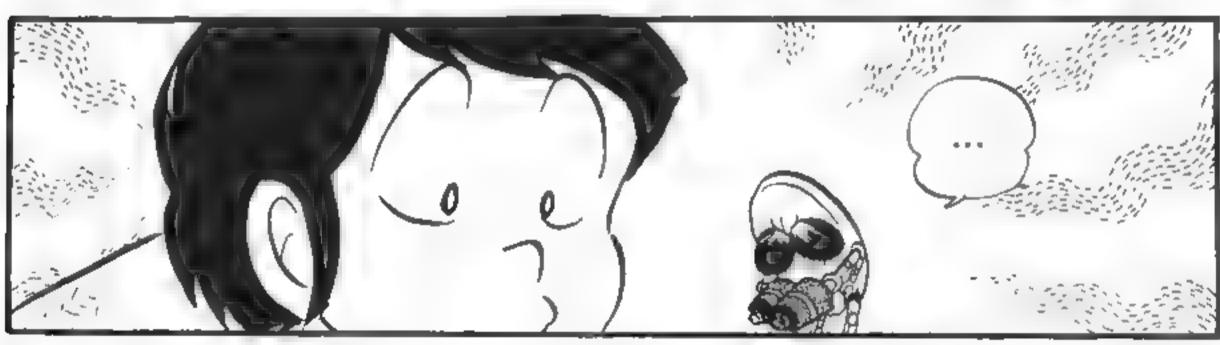




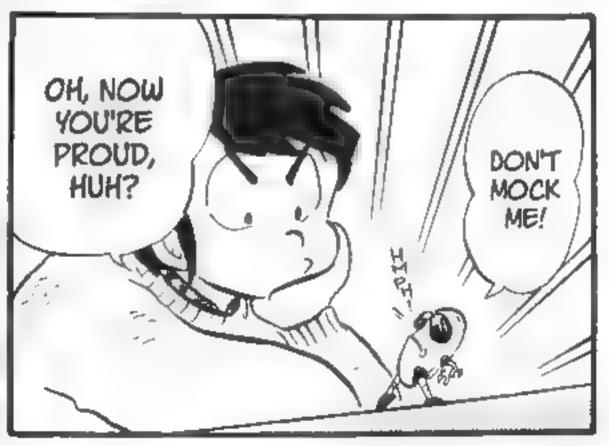


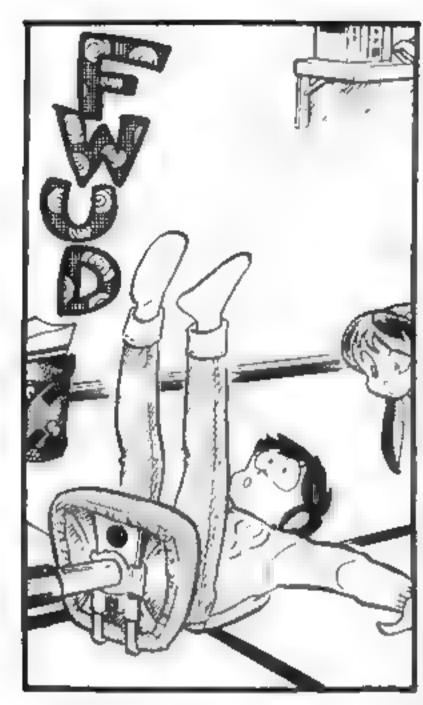


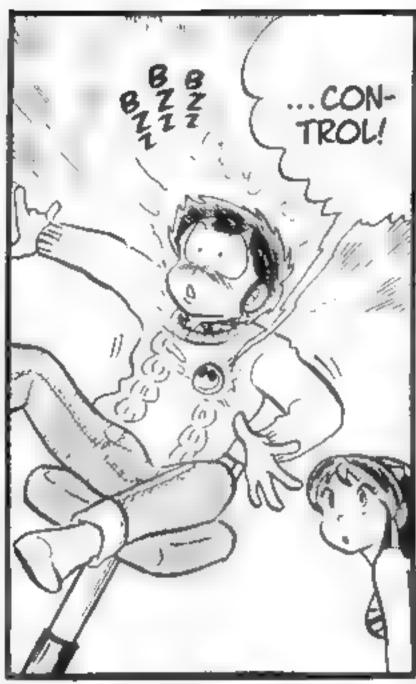




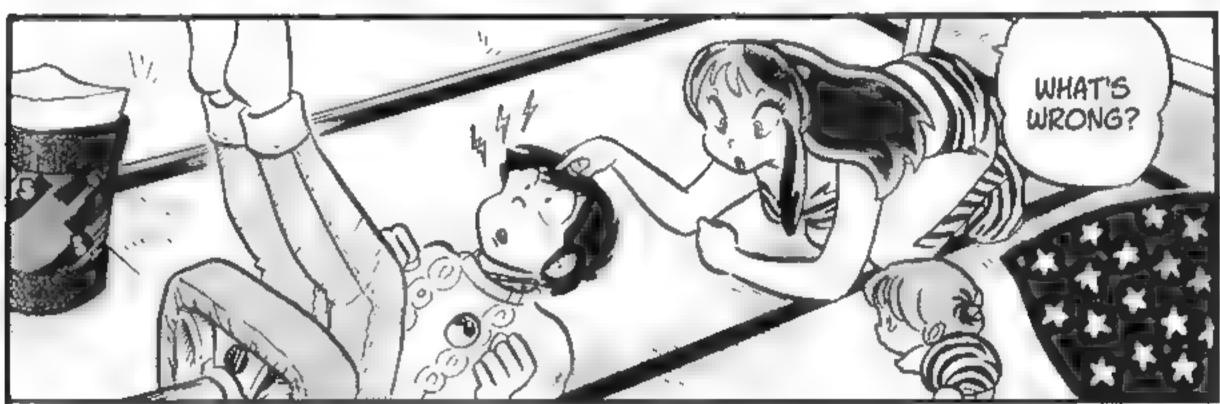










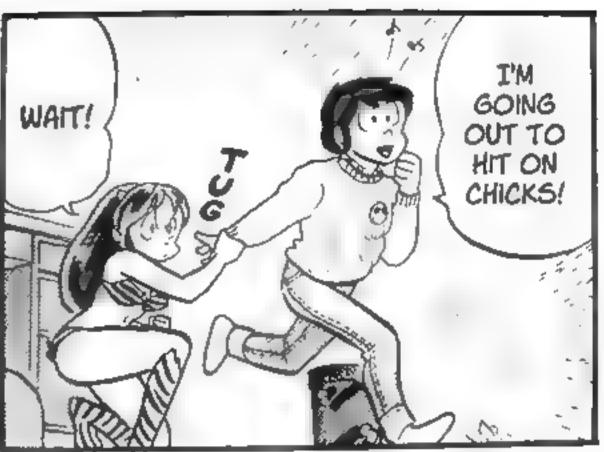






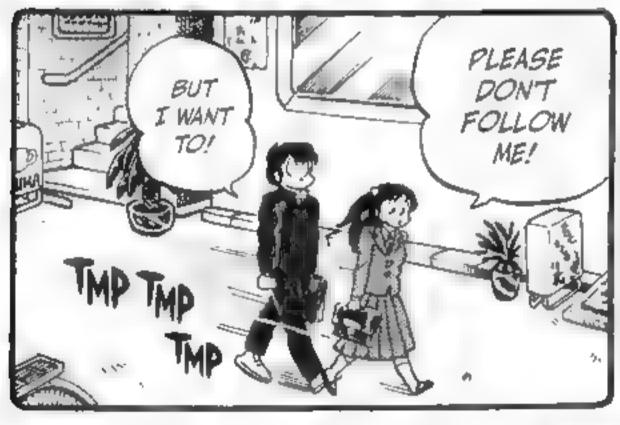




















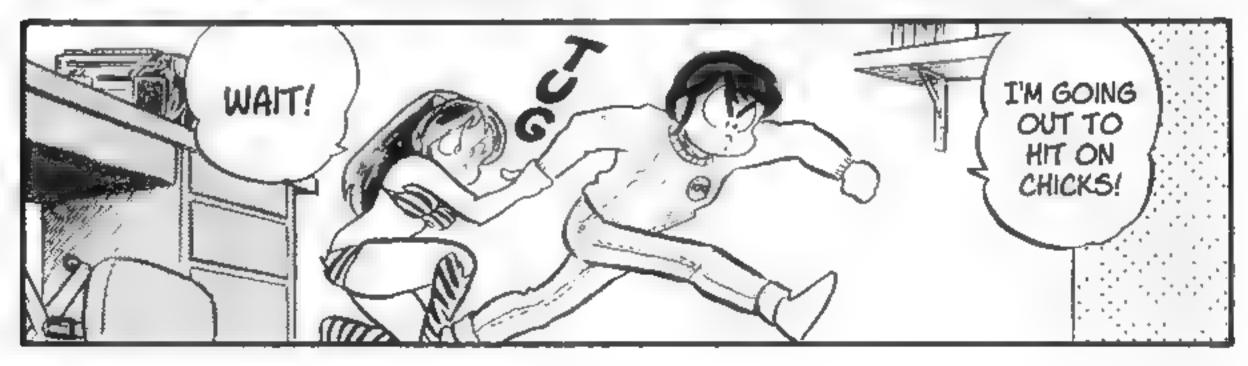














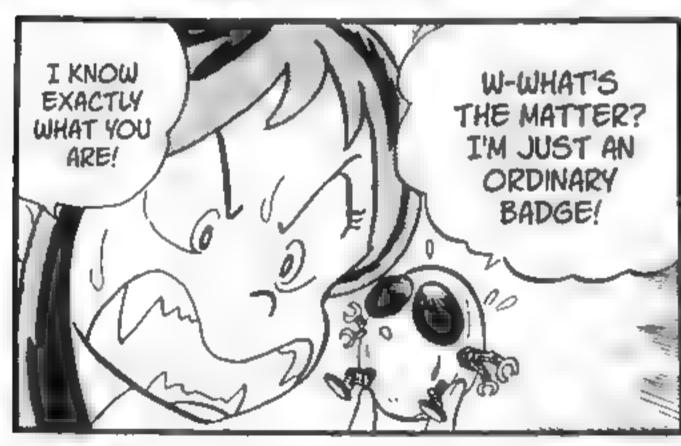










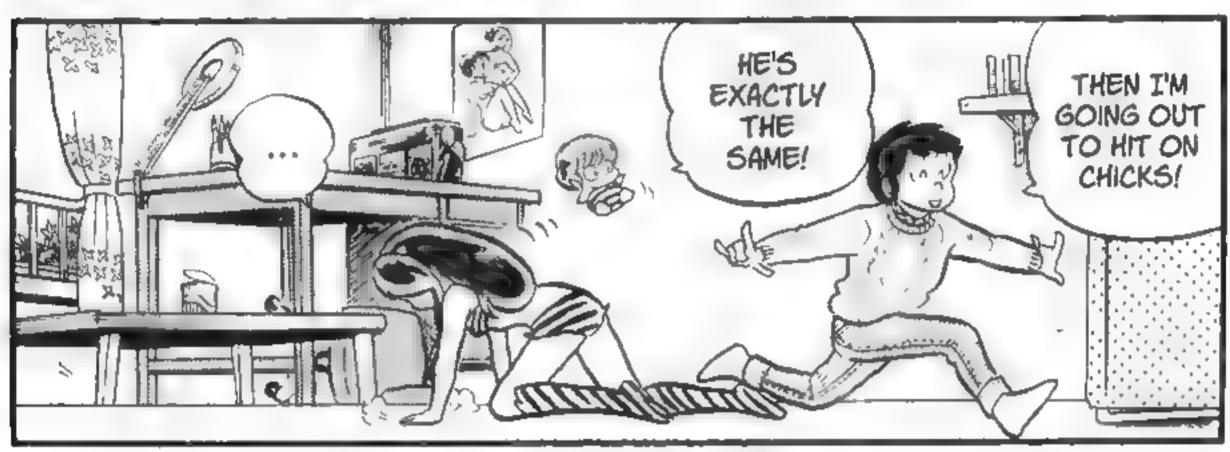
















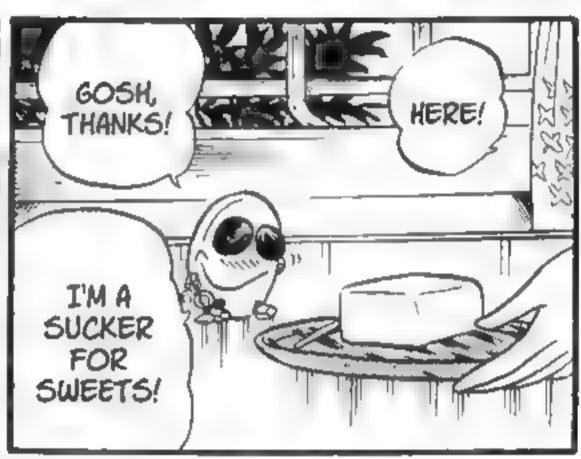


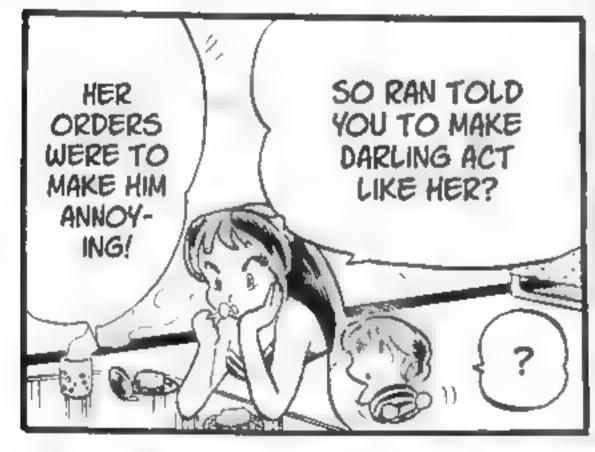


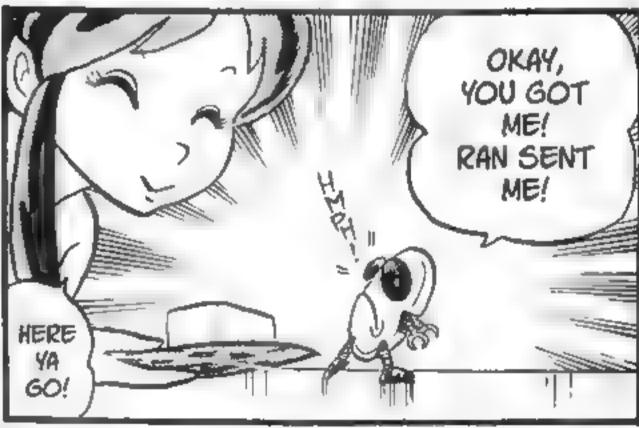


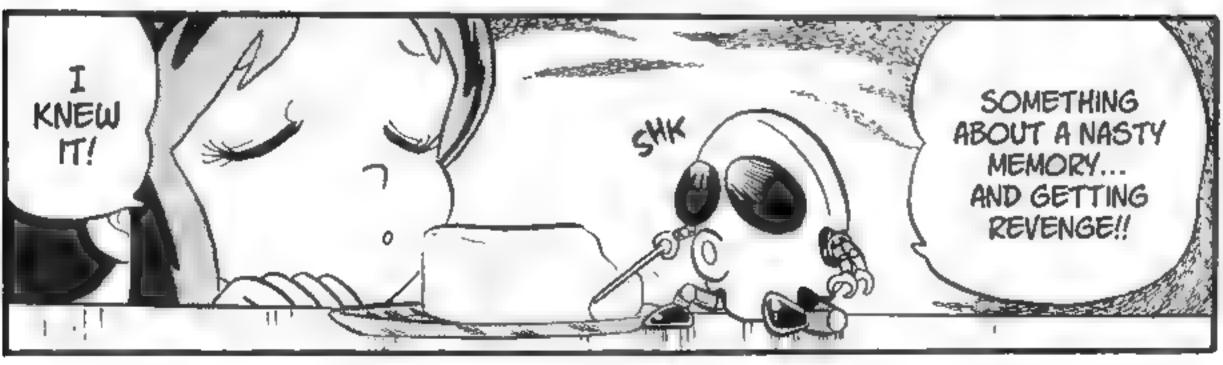


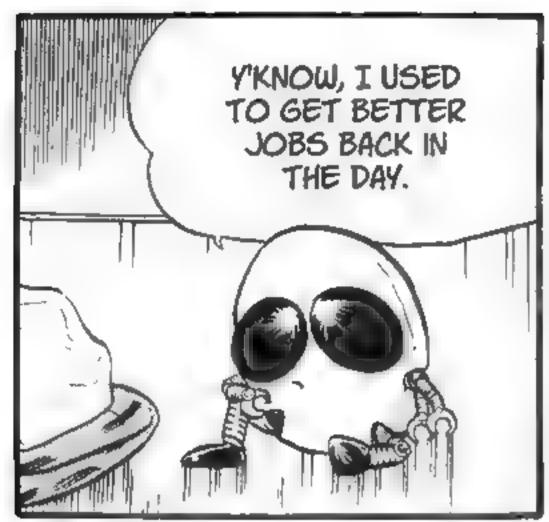


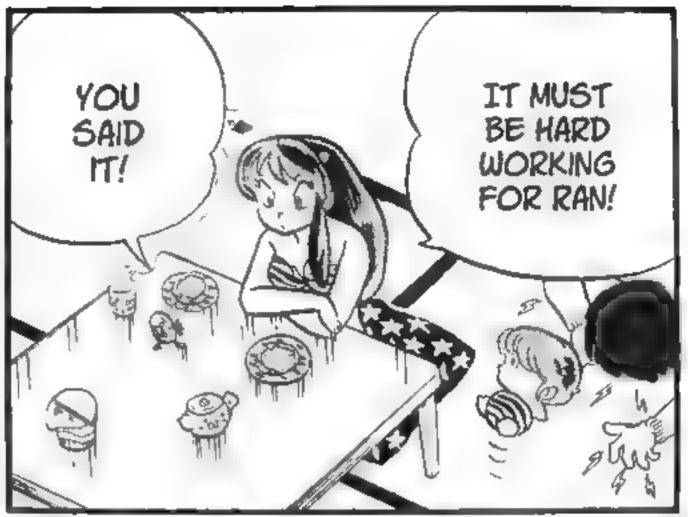


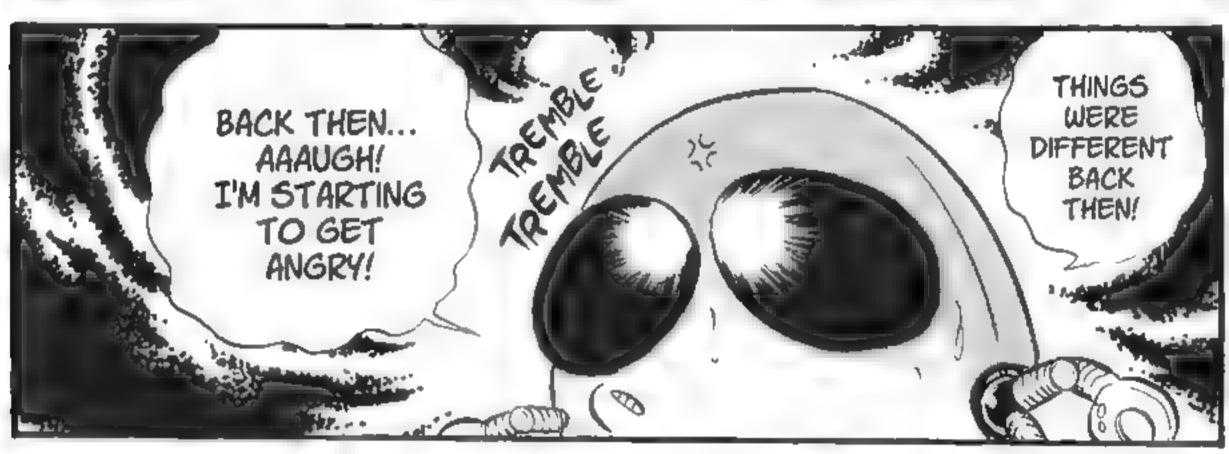












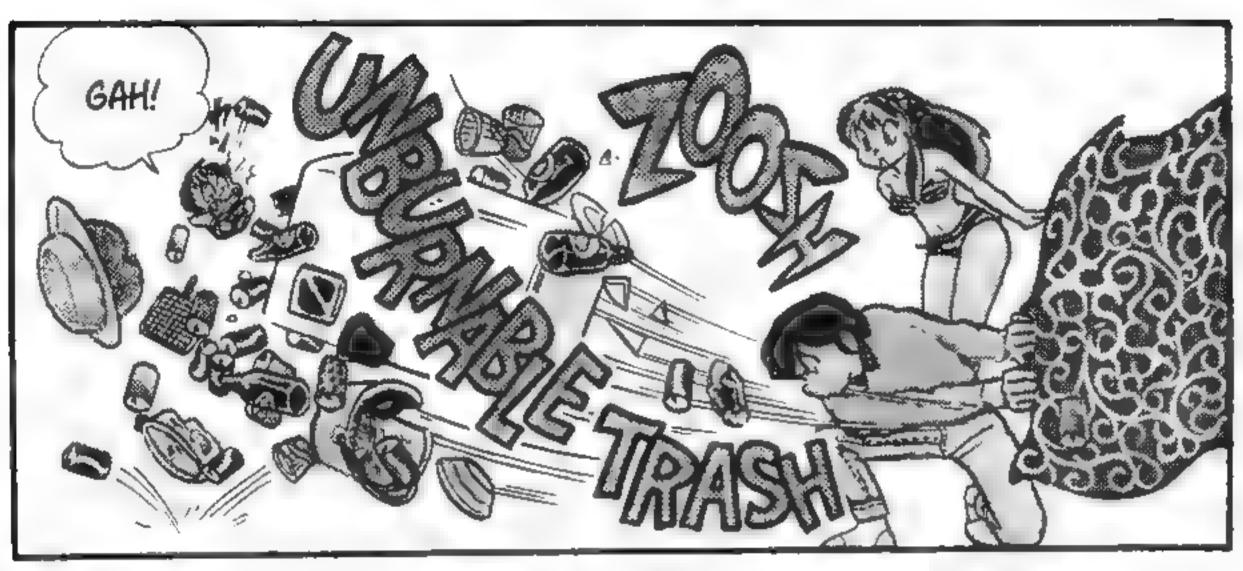




## CHAPTER 7: HORNLESS?!



















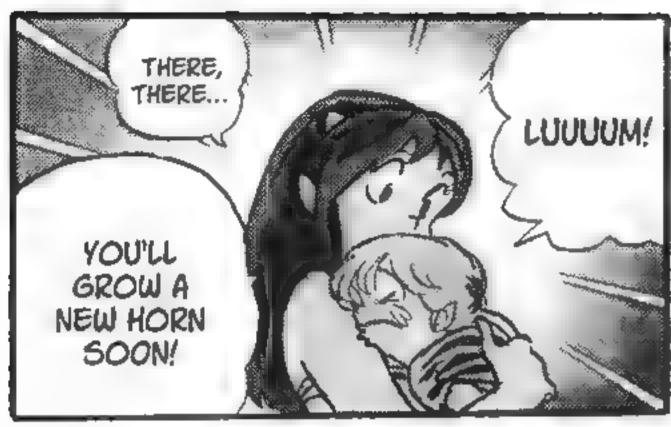


















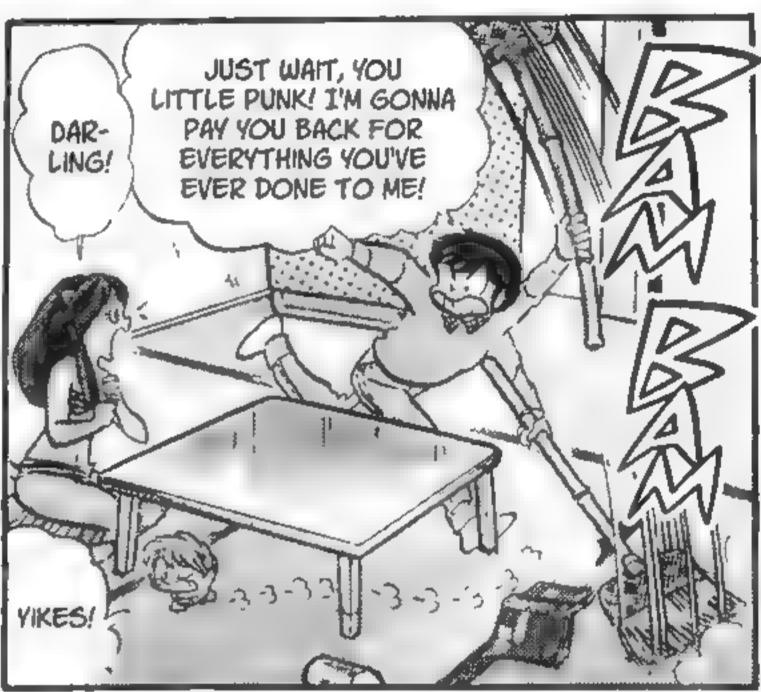




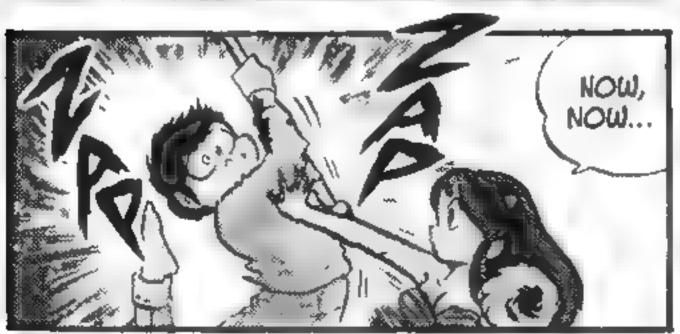










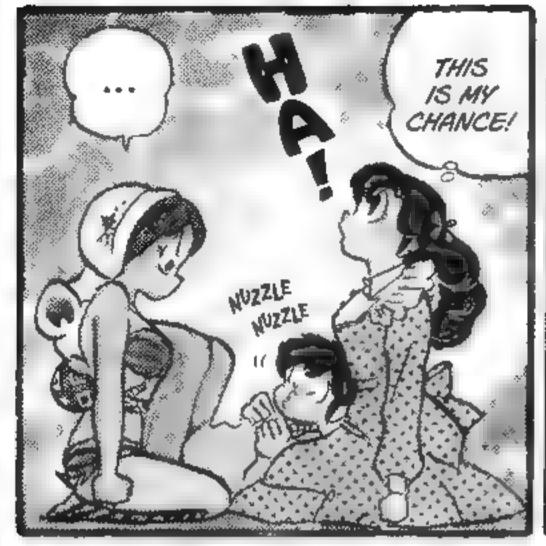




















... SHE'S
DEFENSELESS EVEN
TO A
STRAIGHTON
ATTACK!

IF LUM DOESN'T HAVE HER HORNS...















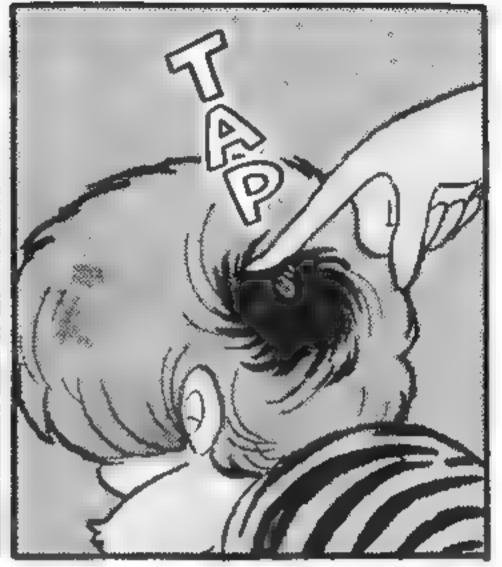


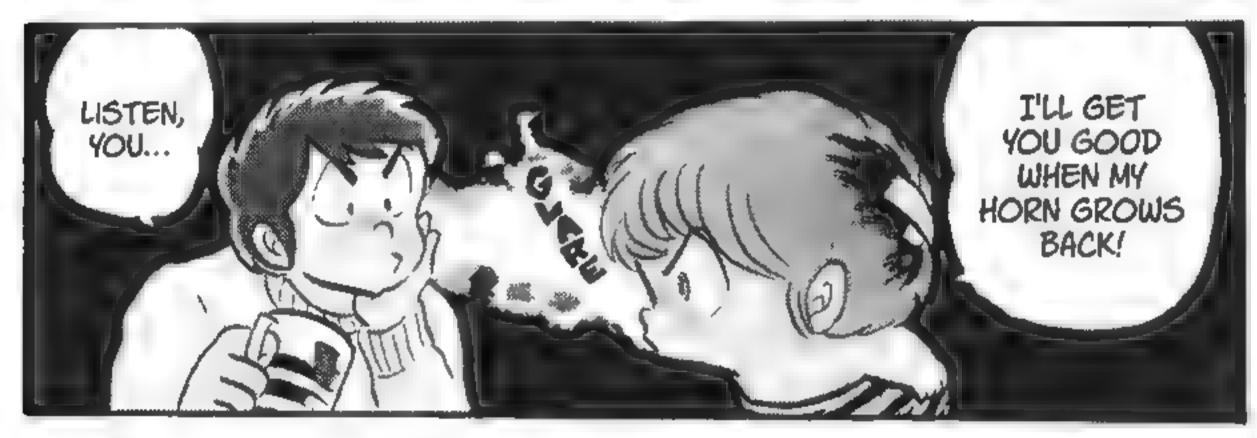






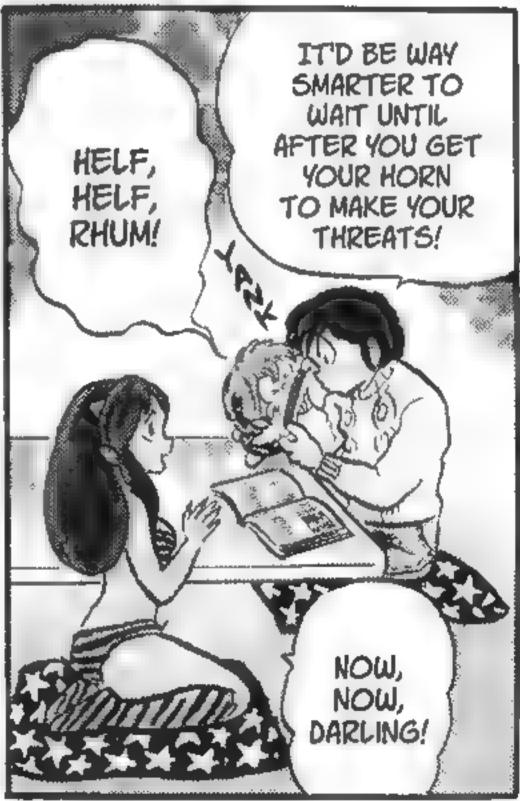












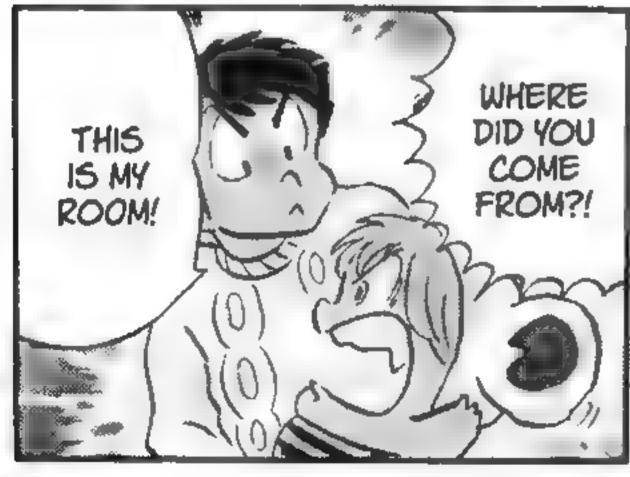


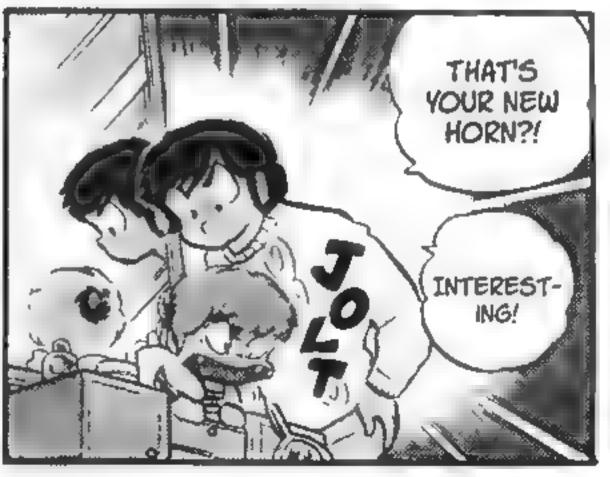


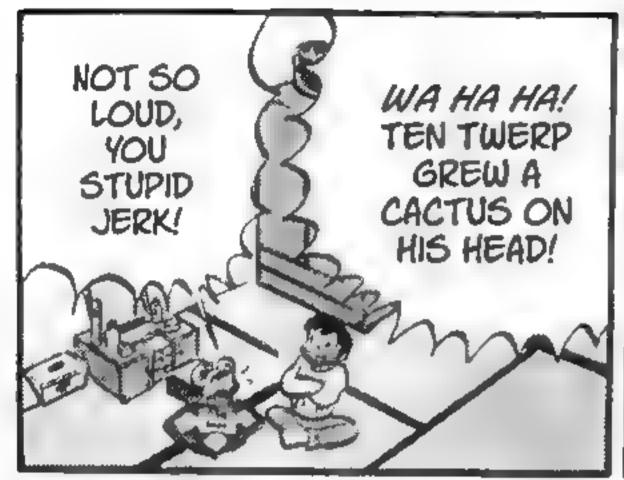












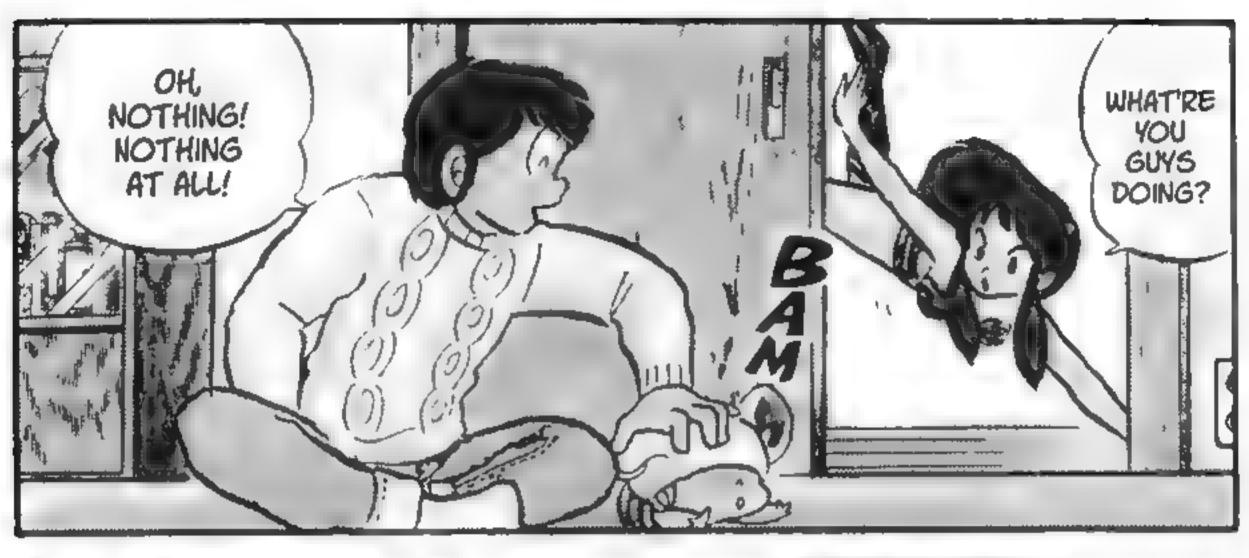










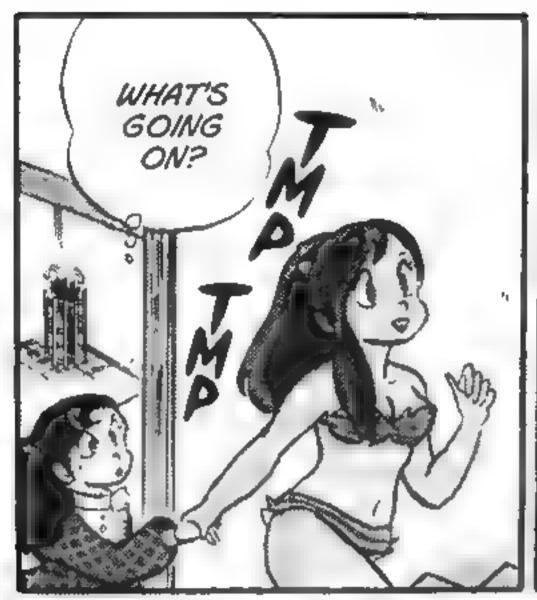






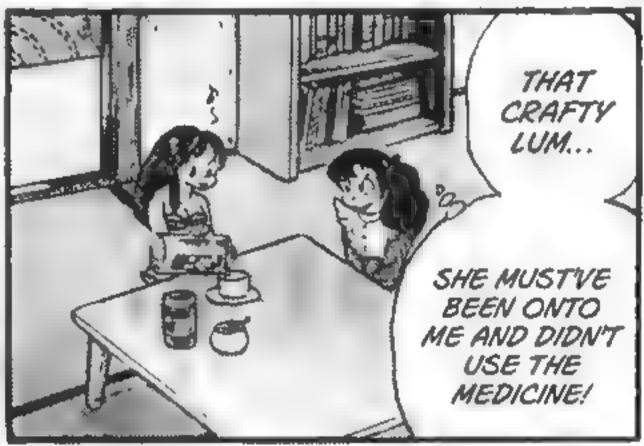


















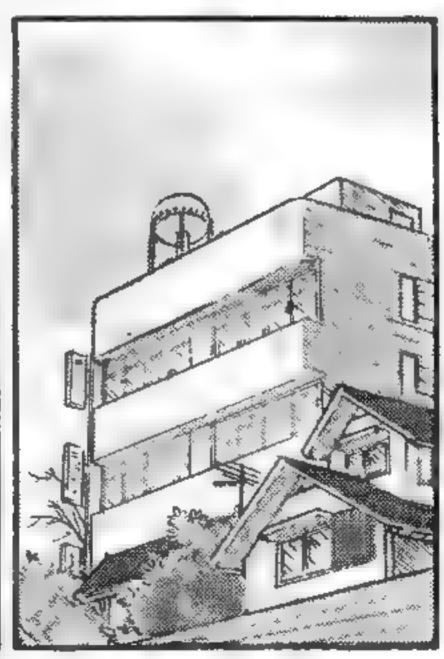




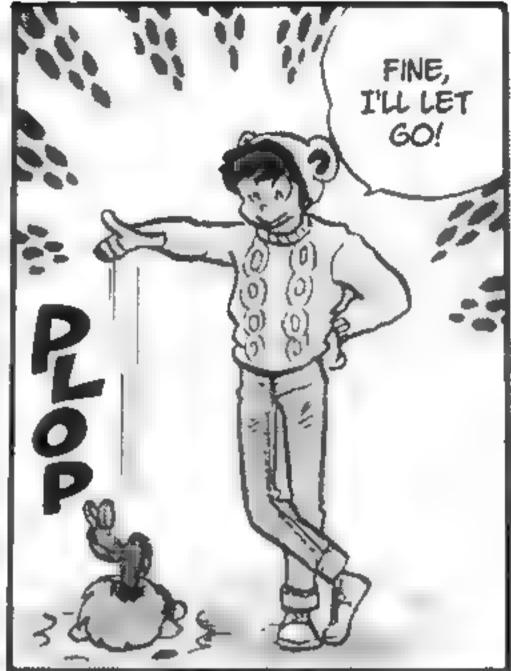
























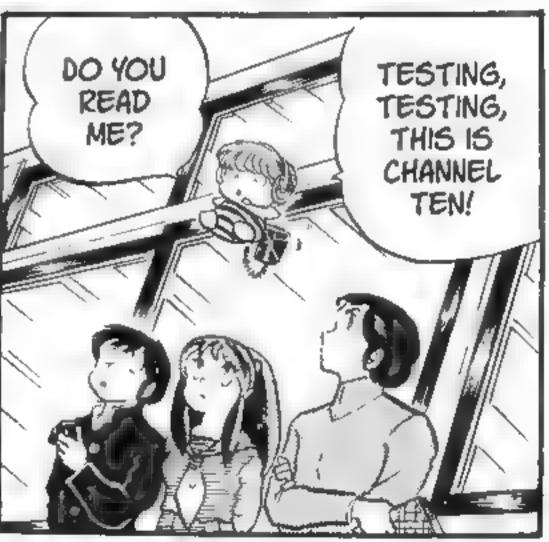
## CHAPTER 8: STUDYING MAYHEM

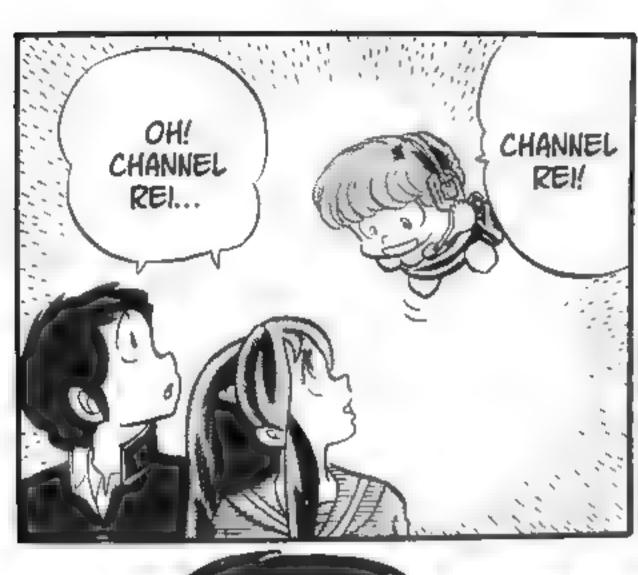






















SOME!

















































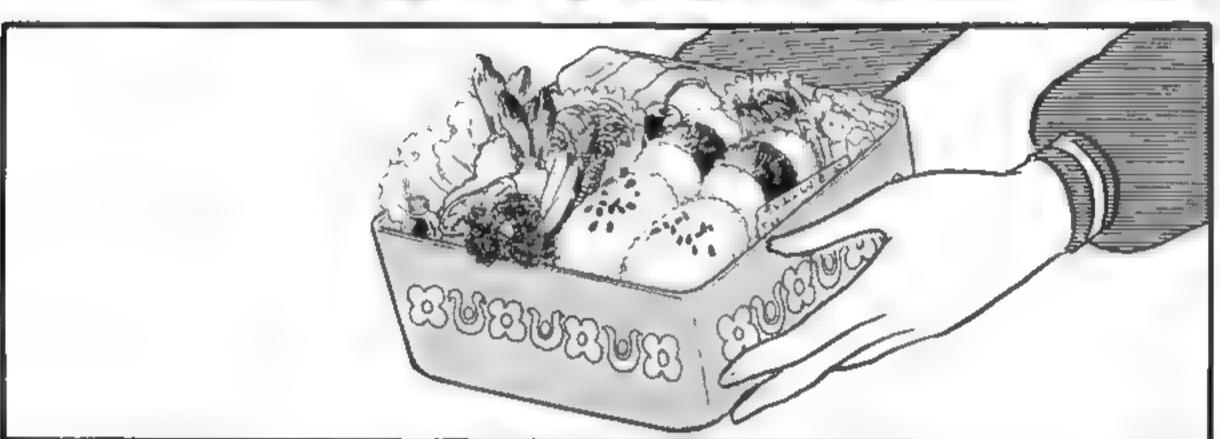


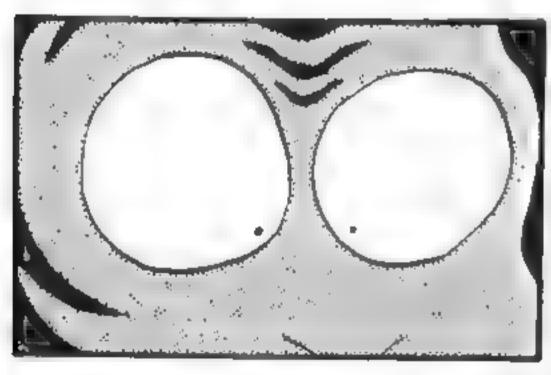
























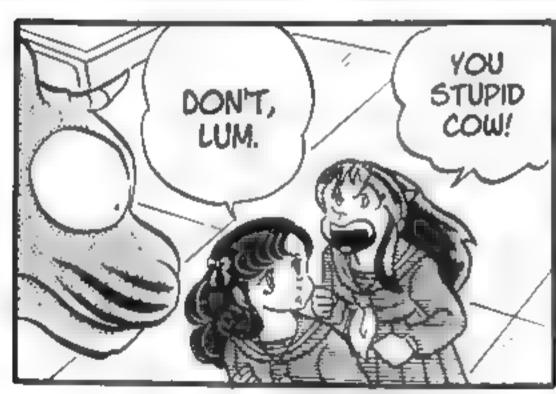


























































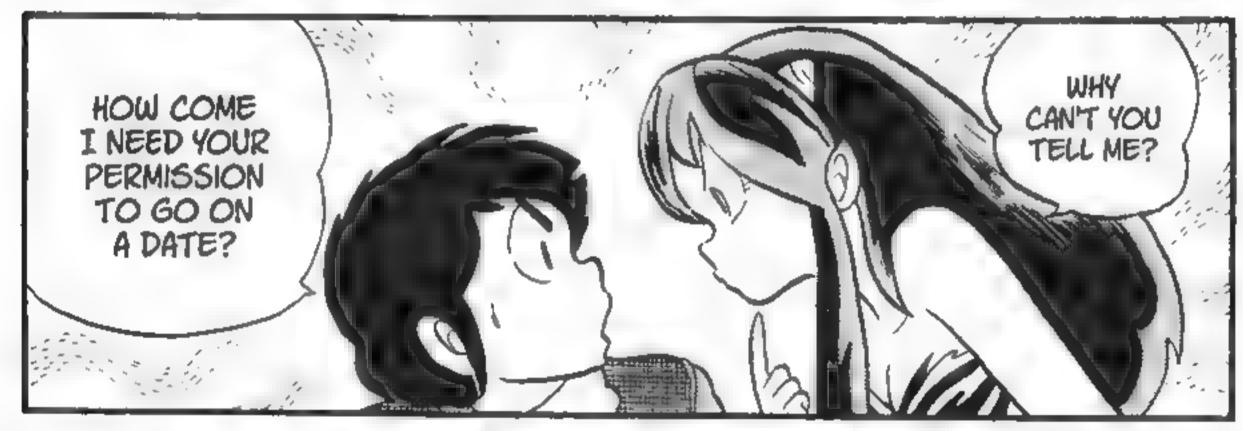




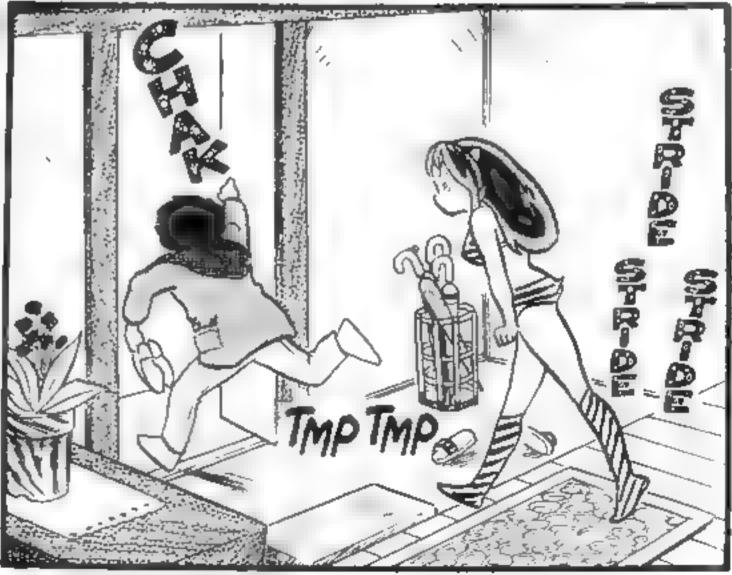














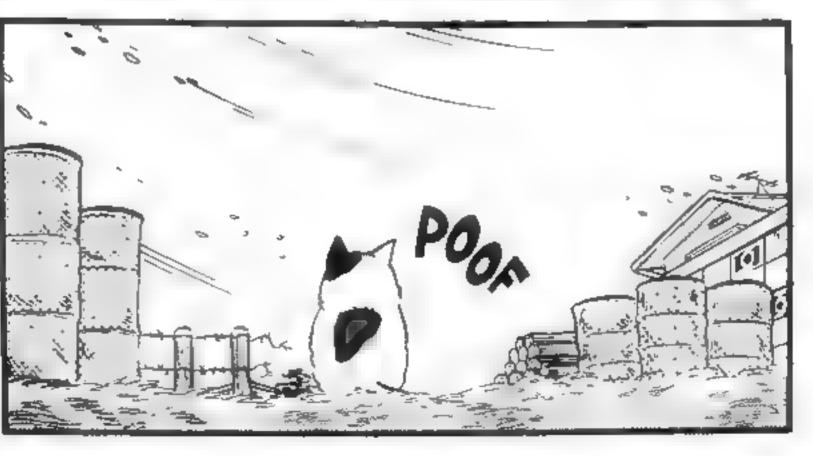


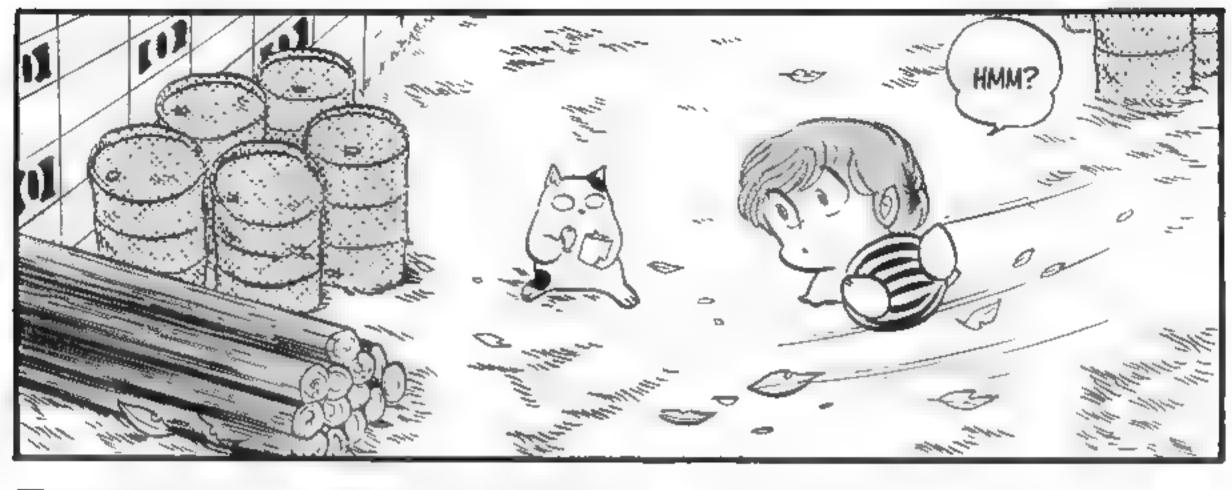


















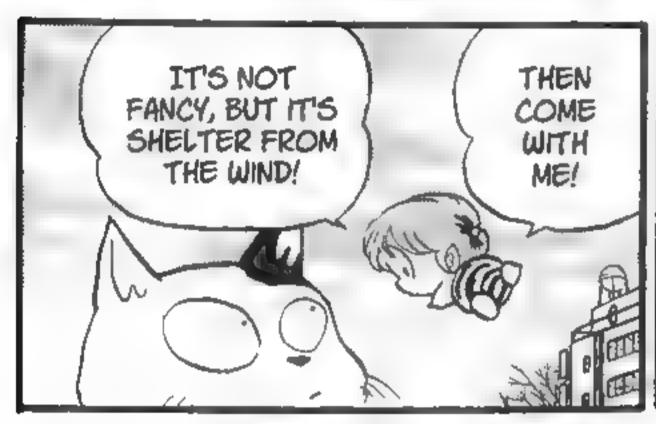
















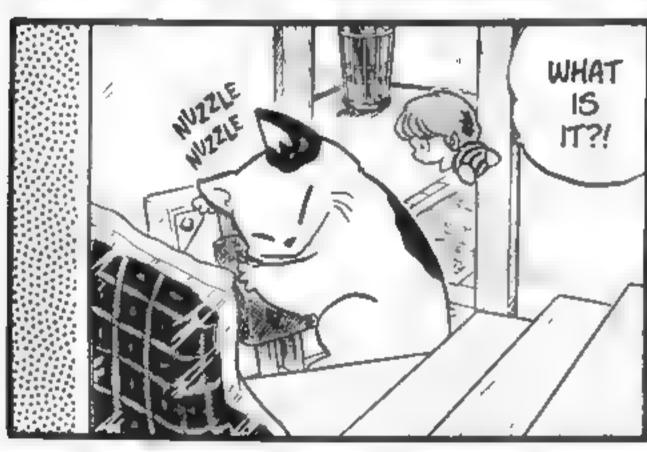


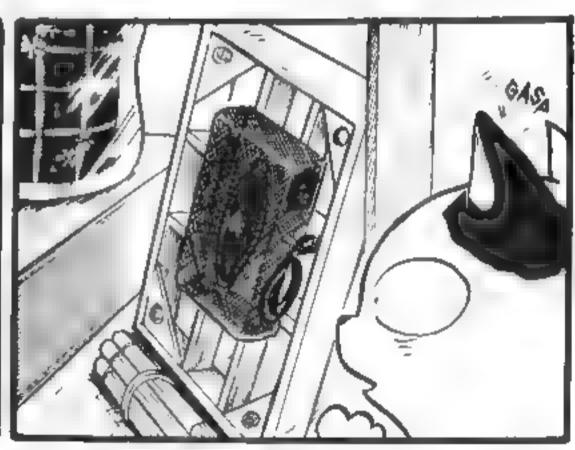












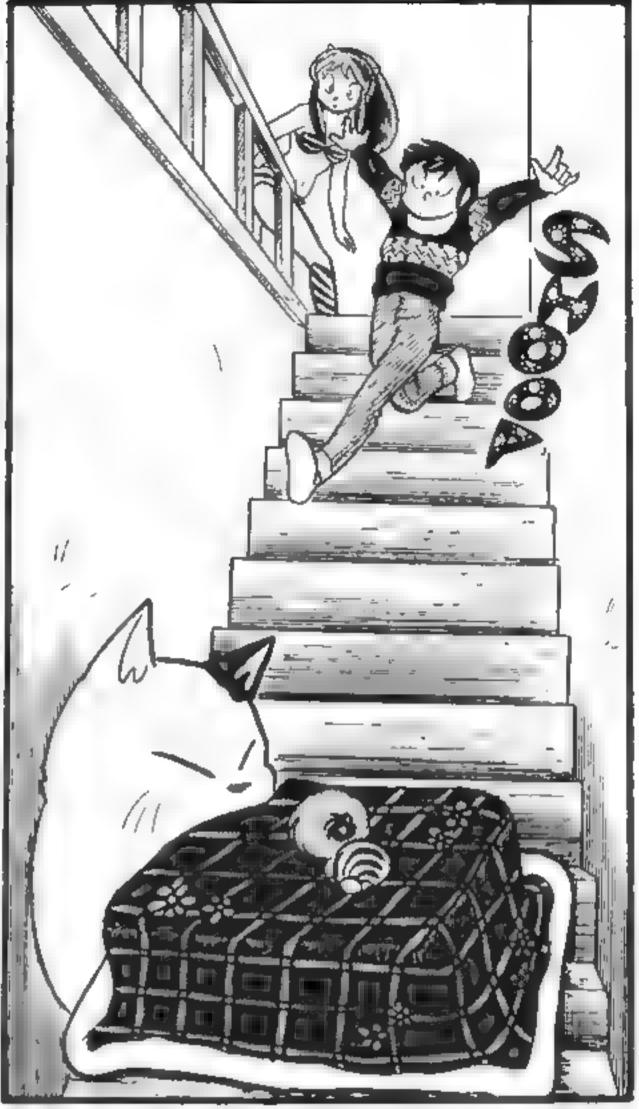


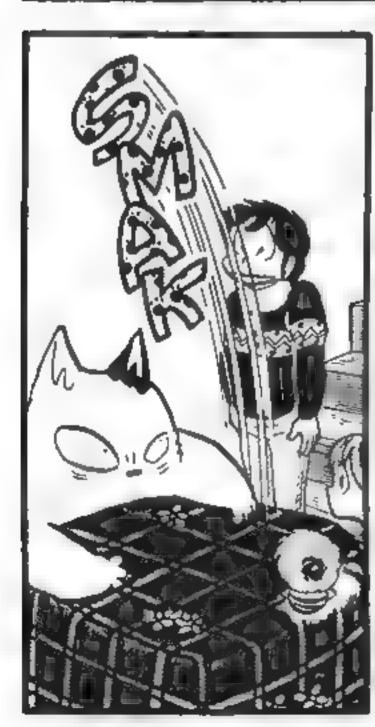






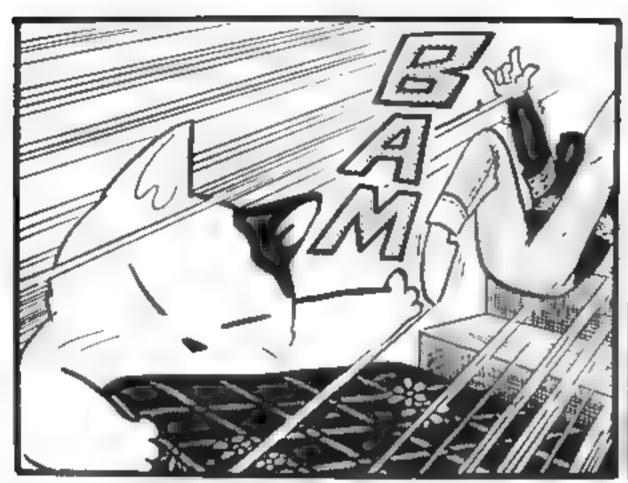


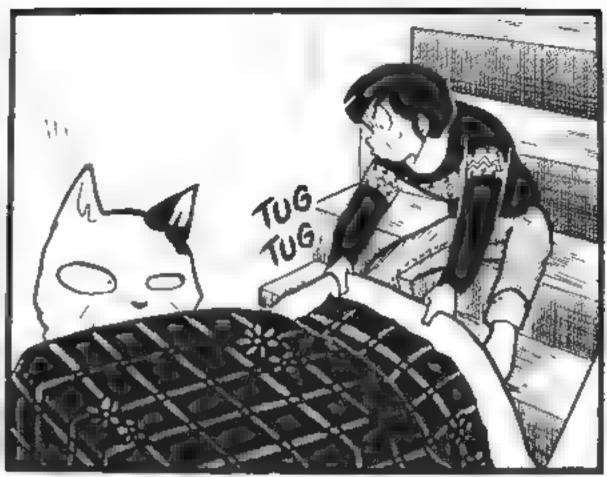


































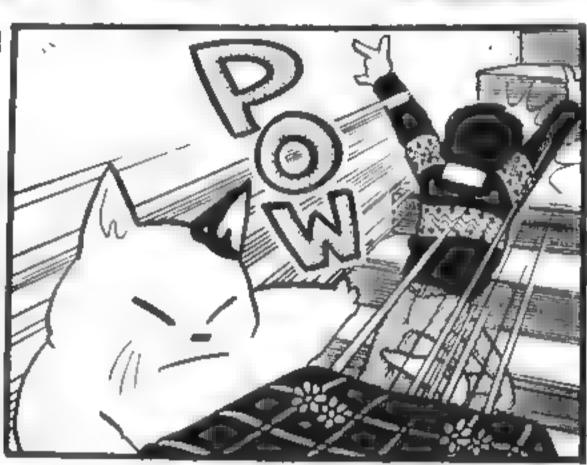


















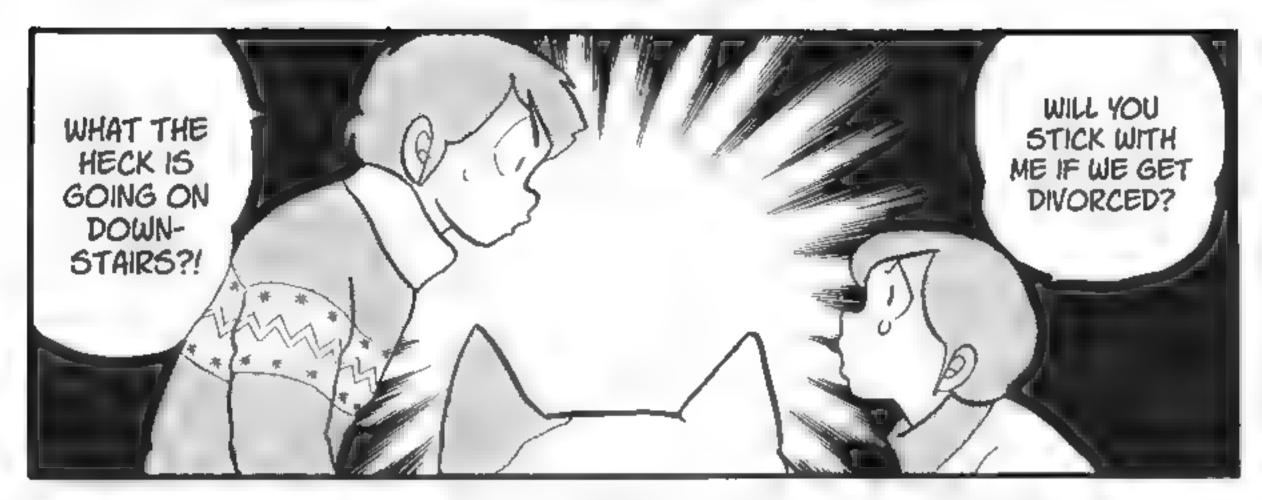




























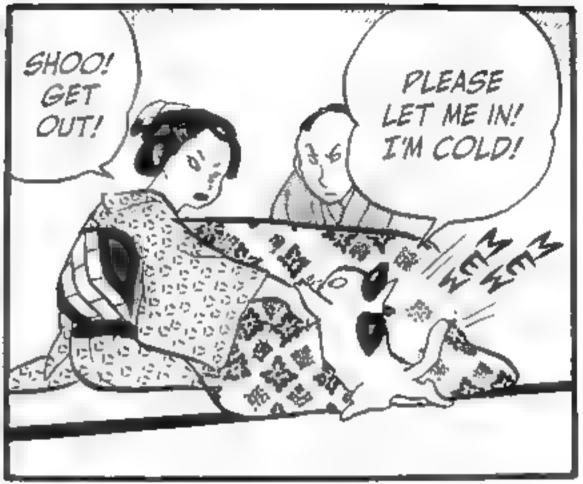




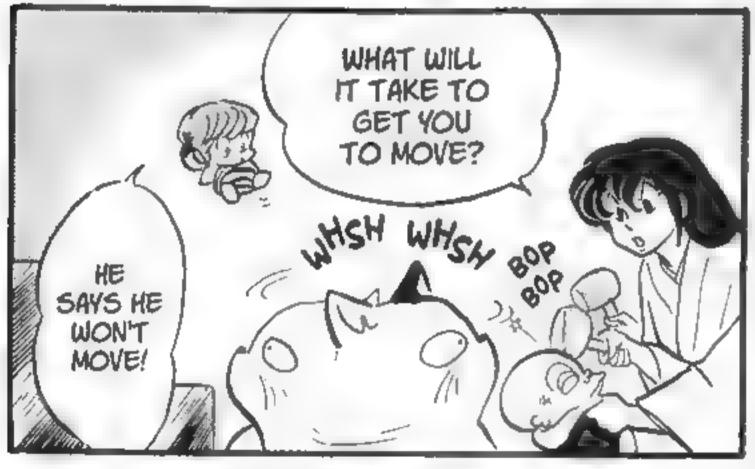
















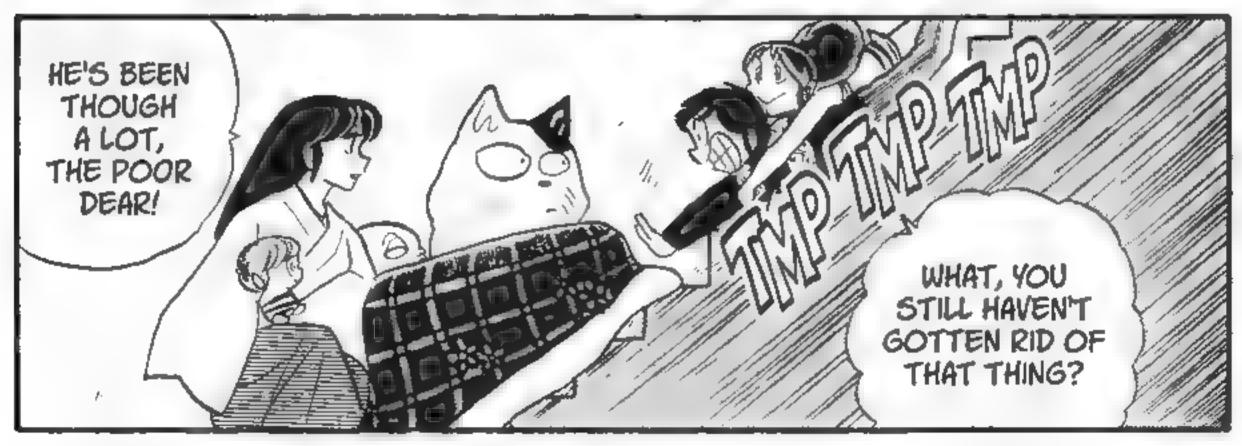


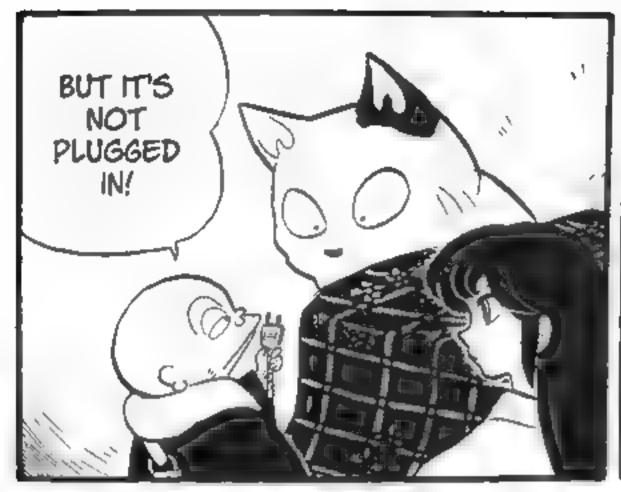








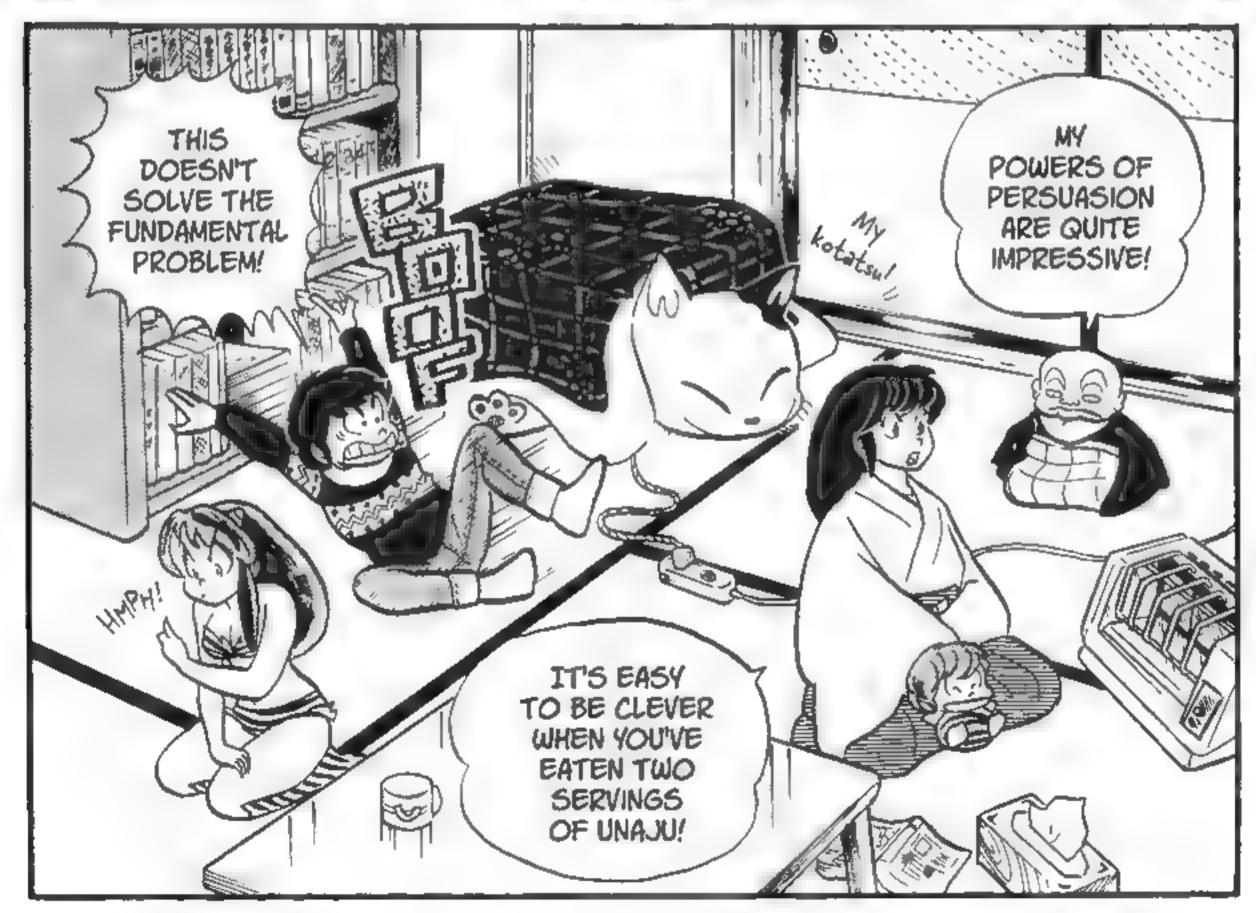








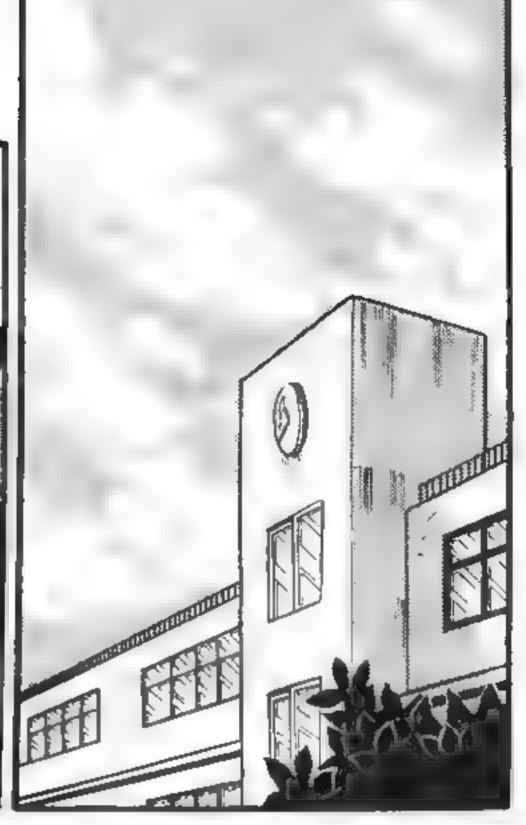


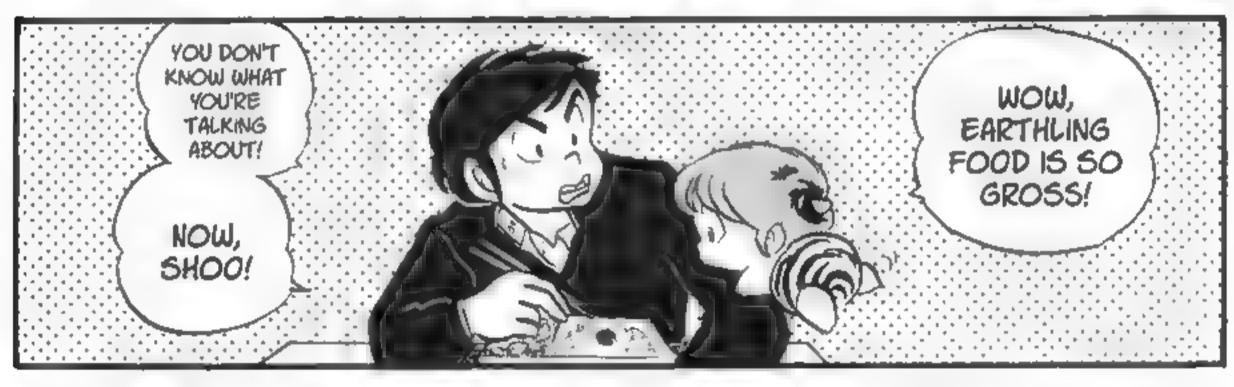


## CHAPTER 10: PICKLED























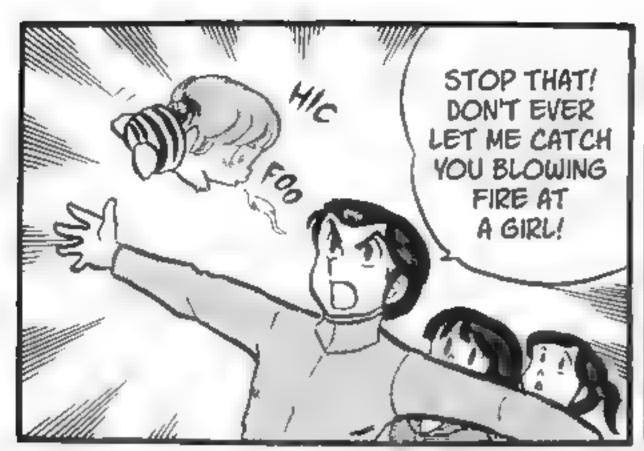








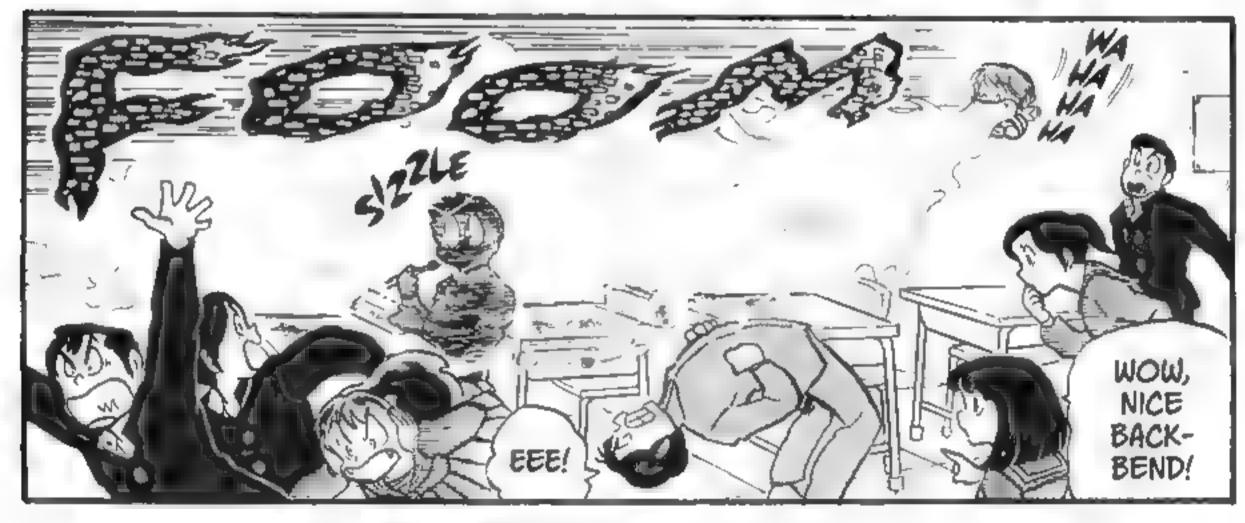






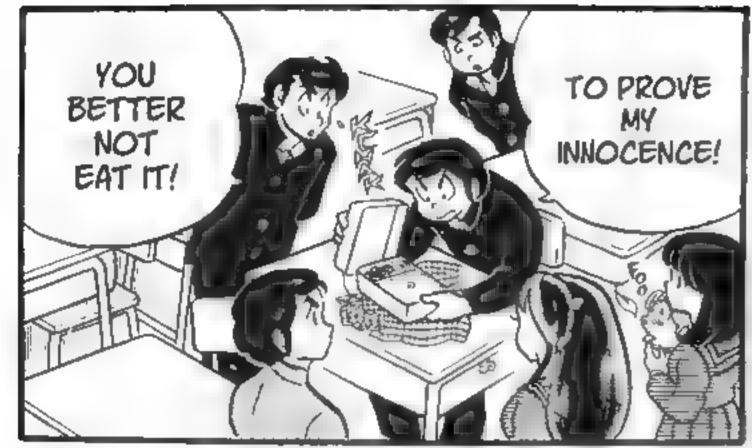














































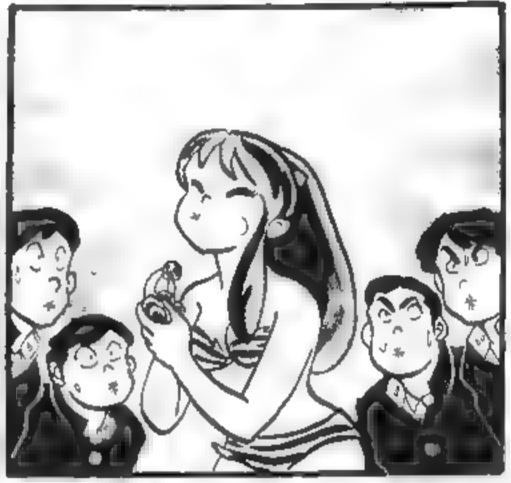




















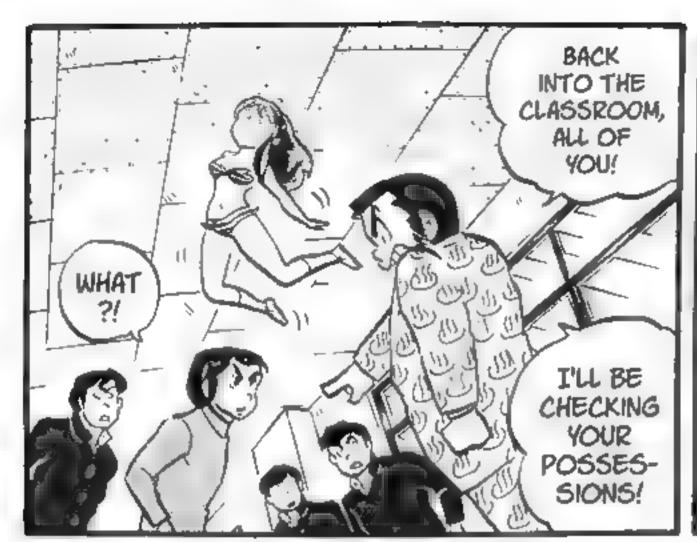
































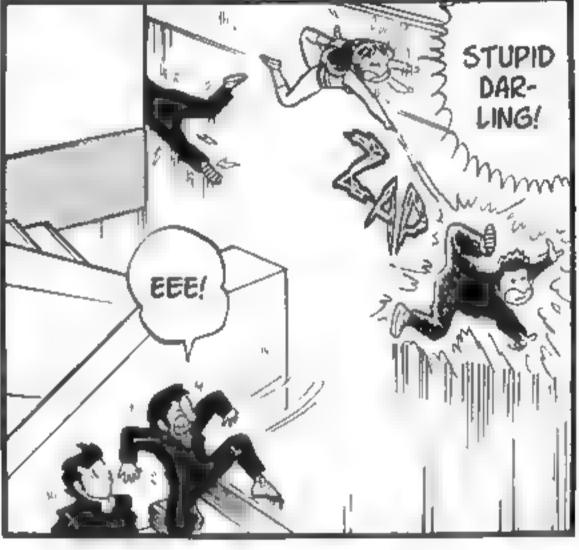












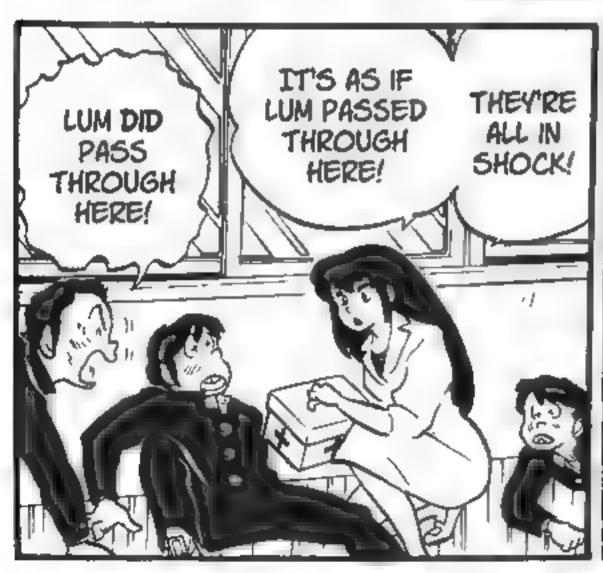














































## CHAPTER 11: FORGET-THE-YEAR PARTY!





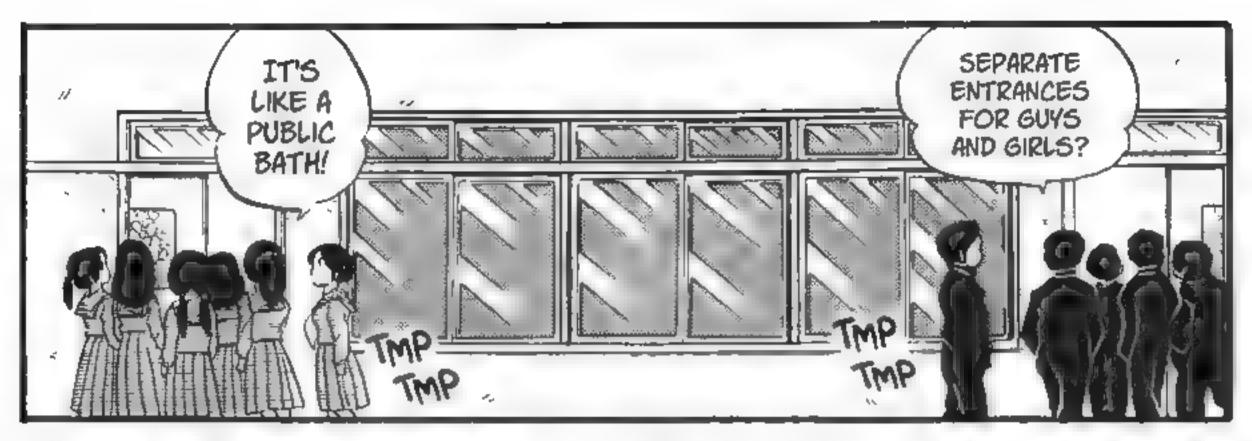




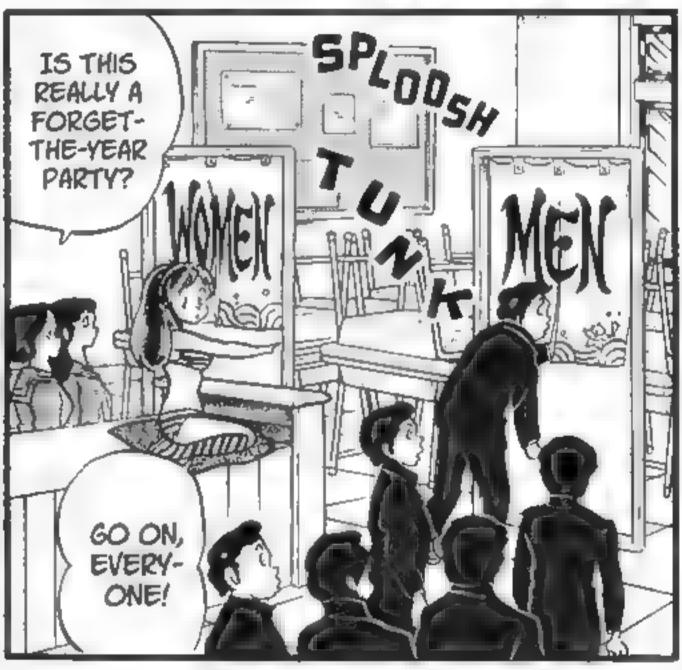








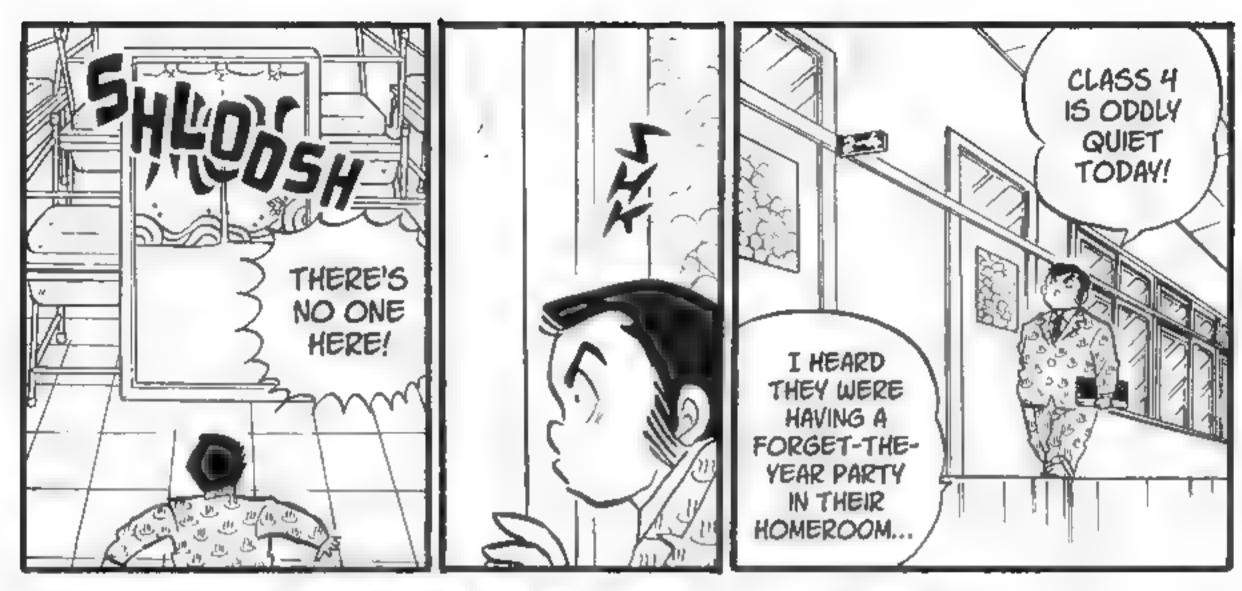
















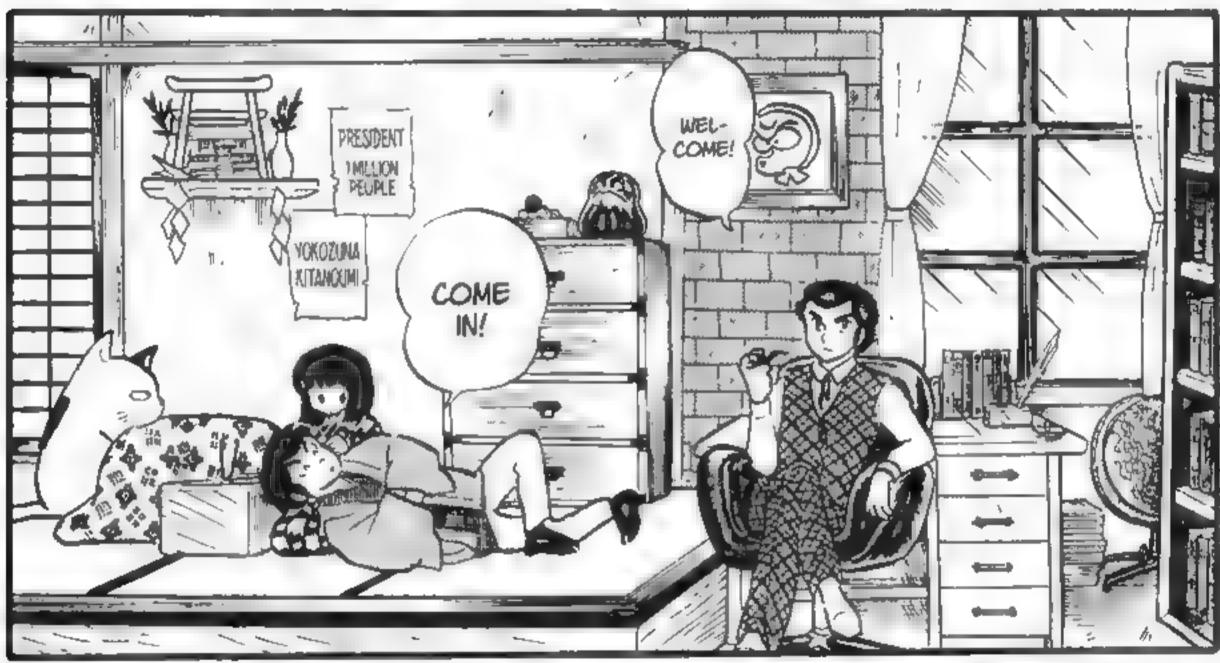


























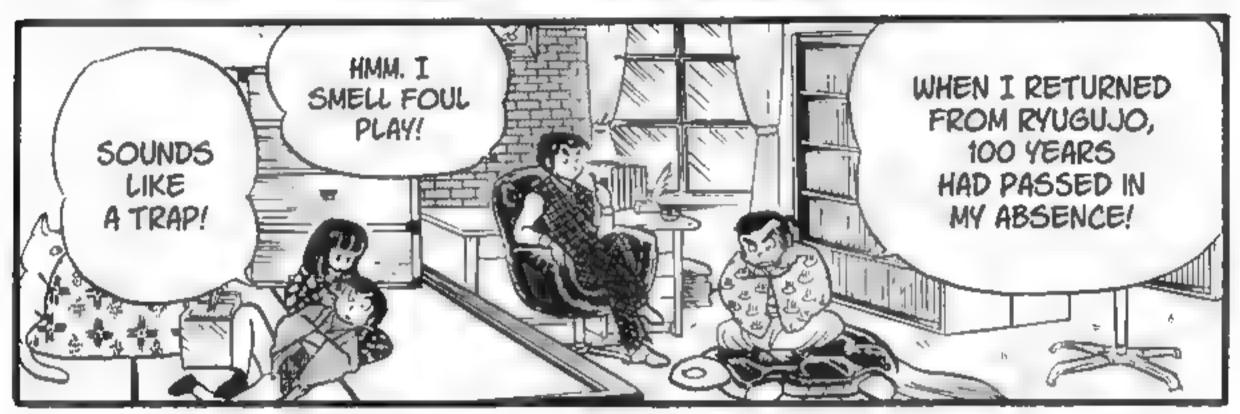




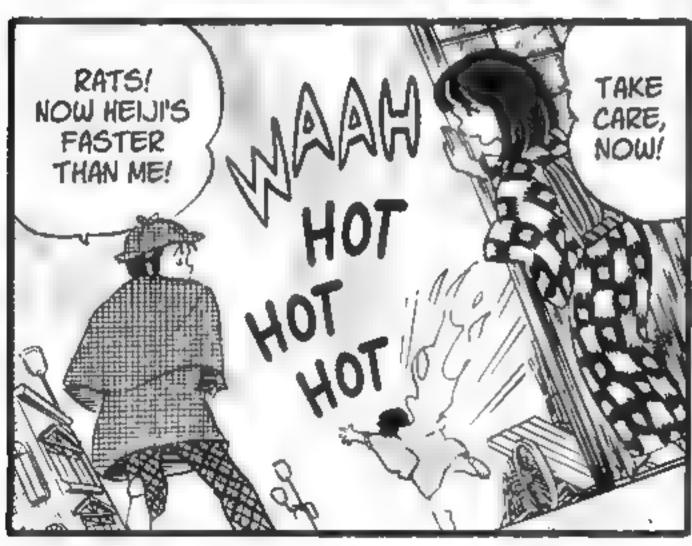




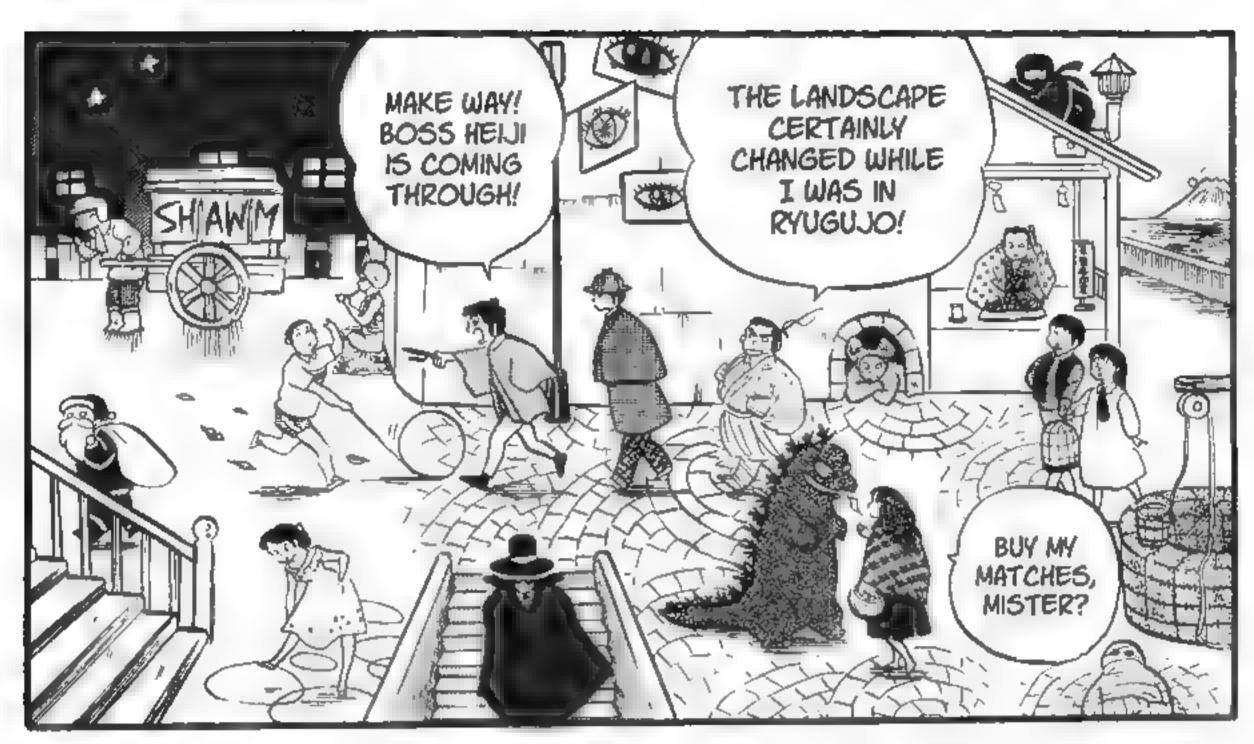










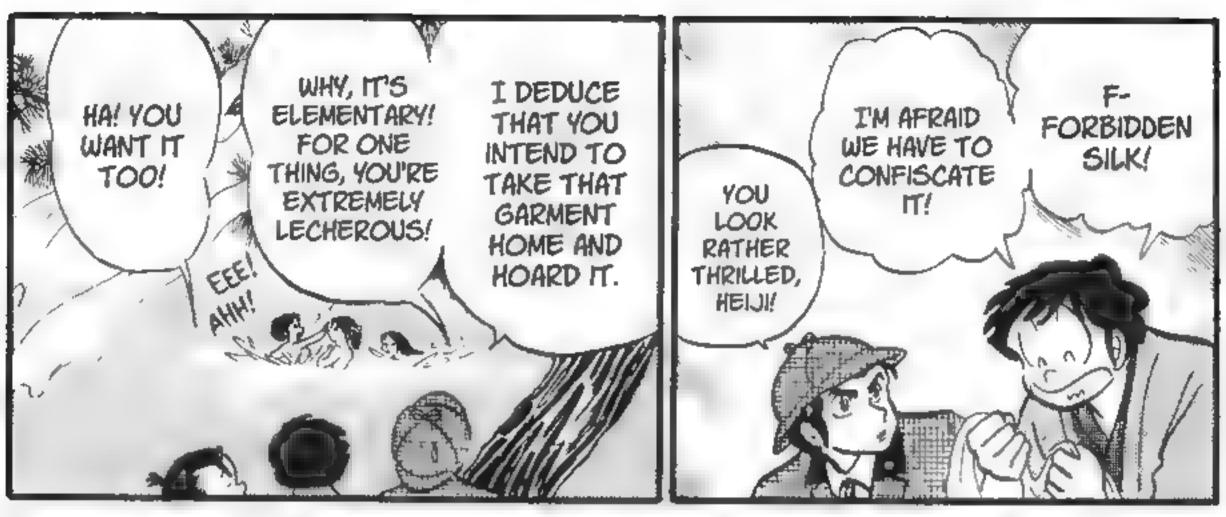






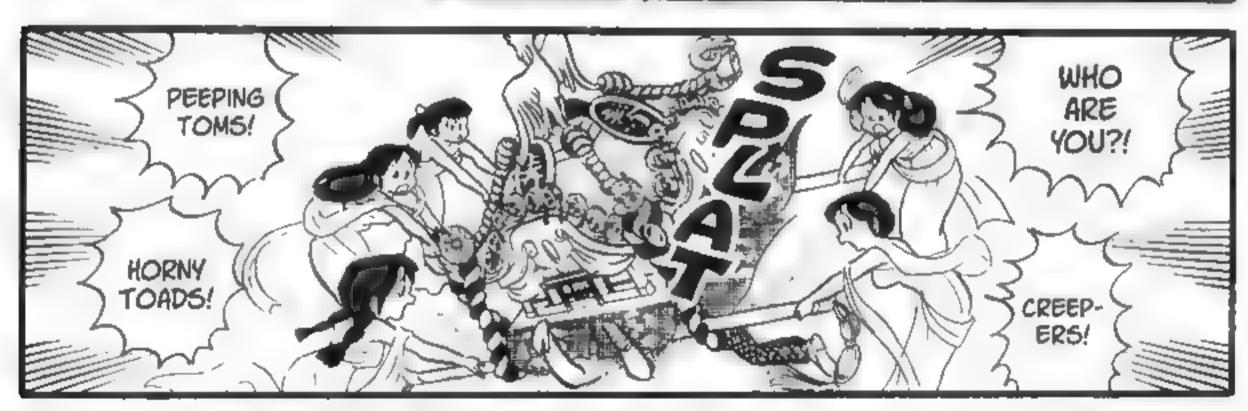






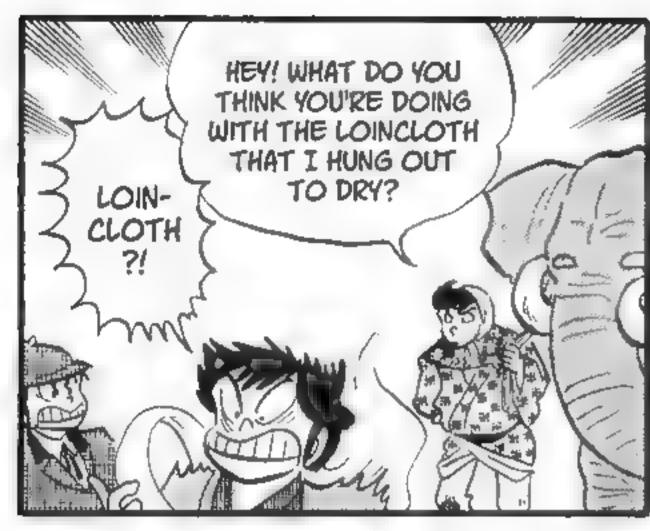
























































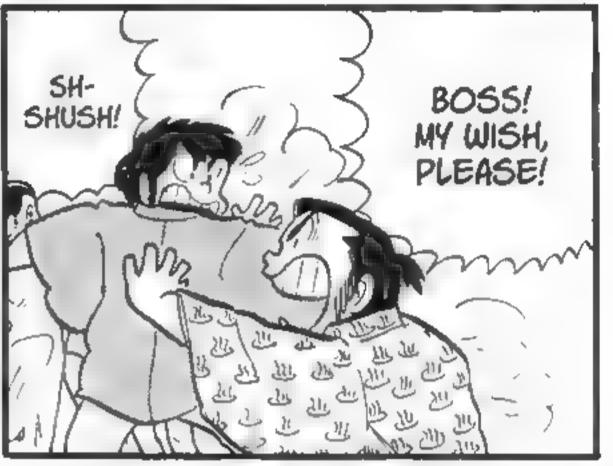
















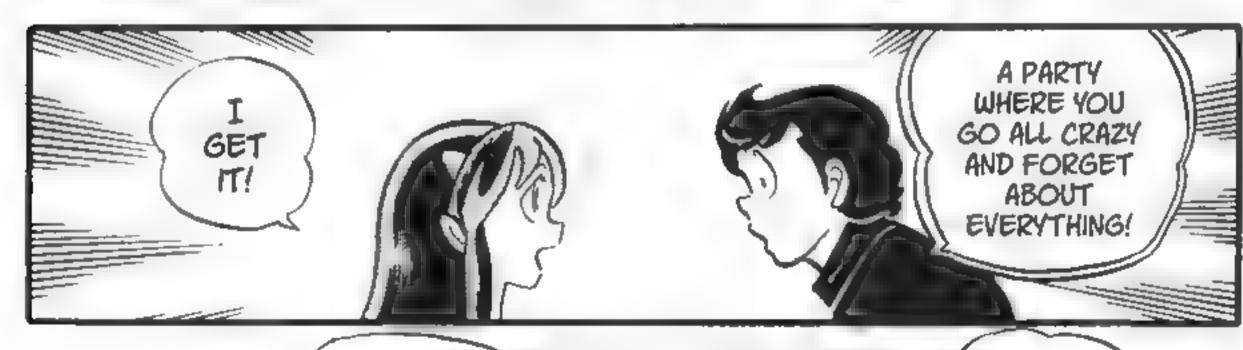












I'M WORRIED.
WHO KNOWS WHAT
KIND OF WEIRD
MISUNDERSTANDINGS
SHE'S
HARBORING...

GONNA PLAN
THE PARTY!

TO ME! THIS'LL BE FUN!

## URUSEI YATSURA X DATA FILE 11

# Cherry and Sakura's Dangerous Concoctions!

Is Ataru their guinea pig? The bizarre potions Cherry and Sakura create are too powerful to be safe!

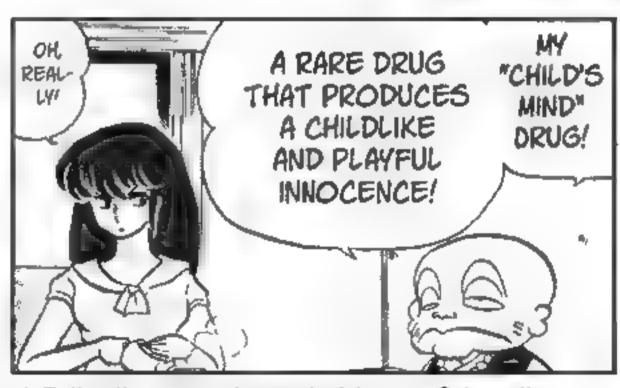
Now and again, Cherry, a powerful monk (?), and Sakura, a *miko* with advanced supernatural powers, cook up some highly unusual drugs. Their potions are the culmination of advanced techniques and years of training. They can be indispensable for warding off haunts and supernatural beings.

Sometimes their magical creations seem to create more havoc in the lives of Ataru and the other citizens of Tomobiki Town, though. In this edition, we investigate the motives behind this spiritual duo's dangerous creations!



STUDY 2

Because Performing
Experiments on
Humans Is Fun!



▲ Rather than engendenng playfulness in Sakura, the drug has an unintended effect... (volume 10, chapter 8 "Sakura's Sorrowful Childhood")



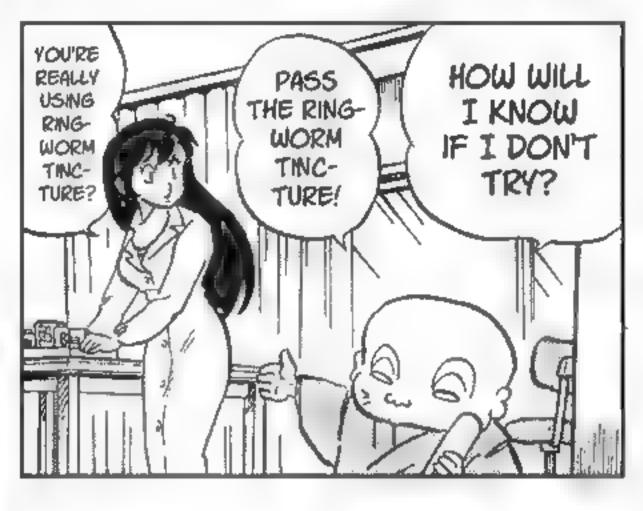
▲ Cherry has also been known to cultivate strange mushrooms. Does he have a secret medicinal plant garden? (volume 8, chapter 12 "Late Autumn...and Matsutake")

One characteristic of Cherry's weird medicines is that at first glance, they don't look suspicious at all. His drug to ward off kleshas and annihilate the ego has the appearance of a common taiyaki cake (volume 9, chapter 13 'The Anatta Potion"), and he stores his youth potion in a medicine bottle labeled "Sore Throat Medicine" on a shelf at the nurse's office at Tomobiki High (volume 4, chapter 2 "Genuine Close Call"). He seems to deliberately disguise his medicines in forms that innocent humans might accidentally ingest. This is, in fact, the key to understanding why Cherry makes these weird potions.

In volume 2, chapter 3
"Without Even Saying Goodbye,"
Cherry seals all of the evil of the world into a bean cake to bury in the ground (a typical endeavor for a monk). But Ataru ends up eating the bean cake and splitting into two doppelgangers...which is not Cherry's intended outcome.
After that, Cherry seems to shift to creating drugs for the purpose of human ingestion.

➤ Sometimes Cherry seems to be creating potions merely on a whim (volume 4, chapter 2 "Genuine Close Call")





Generally, when Sakura makes a potion, it's because she needs it to execute her duties as a miko, such as sealing away a haunt (volume 17, chapter 3 "Nighttime Onslaught, Part 1") or telling fortunes (volume 4, chapter 4 "Fortune Fear").

She also roasts newts and stews cats' whiskers and the like to create medicinal potions to treat wounds, headaches, hemorrhoids, etc. Yes, these potions are strange, but Sakura's responsible nature is evidenced in the fact that her brews serve practical

purposes (volume 6, chapter 1 "Adverse Effects"). Then again, when she attempts to cook up a love potion at Lum's and Shinobu's bidding, she accidentally concocts a lying potion instead...

Cherry, on the other hand, seems much more experimental in his approach. He cooks up a number of potions just for the fun of it without anyone having asked for them, including a potion of youth (volume 4, chapter 2 "Genuine Close Call"), an ego-annihilating Anatta potion (volume 9, chapter 13 "The Anatta Potion") and a "child's mind" pill that engenders playfulness and a childlike energy (volume 10, chapter 8 "Sakura's Sorrowful Childhood").

Are these really necessary for his professional duties as a monk? More often than not, the answer is no.

\* \* \* \* \* \*



Also, when Ataru takes the kleshabanishing Anatta Potion in the form of a taiyaki cake, he simply goes into a coma since his entire being was composed of kleshas. Thus, even though the tests results are often disappointing, it should be noted to Cherry's credit that these failings are not the fault of his potions. The youth potion would certainly have worked without Ran's interference, and the klesha-annihilating drug would clearly have been a success were it not for Ataru's unique constitution.

In other words, there is nothing wrong with Cherry's strange brews.
Their shortcomings have more to do with his testing them on the residents of Tomobiki Town, and usually on Ataru. Were Cherry to test them on normal human beings, his potions would most certainly elicit fantastic results.

But are there any humans brave enough to ingest Cherry's experimental creations outside of Tomobiki Town? That is the true question.



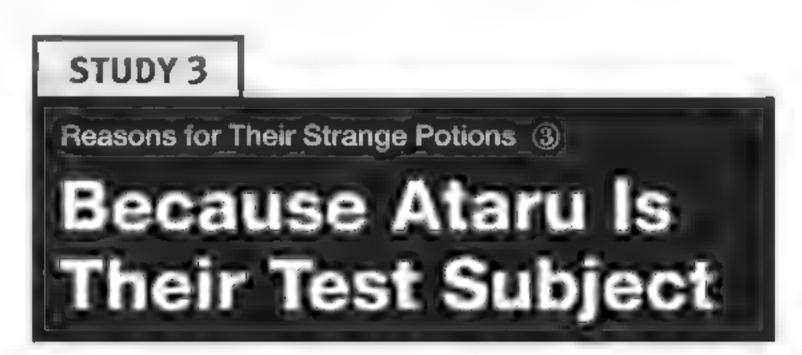
▲ Ataru takes Ryoko's homemade hypnosis drug. isn't there anyone else they could try it on? (volume 6, chapter 21 "Helio, Sailor Suits!")

In other words, the bean cake incident not only shows Cherry an unexpected use for his concoction, but it gives him a taste for the excitement of performing experiments on humans as well. Thanks to Ataru's greedy nature, he can be counted on to devour anything presented in the form of food with no regard for consequences (which makes him the perfect guinea pig).

Perhaps this is why Cherry's concoctions are always designed to look like harmless, everyday consumables.



▲ Ataru lunges for Cherry's bean cake, leading to utter mayhem (volume 2, chapter 3 "Without Even Saying Goodbye")



Much like a mad scientist, Cherry conducts a string of human experiments, but the results are often disappointing.

Most often, Ataru is the guinea pig. But right after Ataru drinks Cherry's potion of youth, Ran sucks the youth out of him with a kiss, resulting in no change from his normal state. As a result, the drug's efficacy is undetectable.



▲ Their animal test is a failure, so as usual, they end up testing the potion on Ataru (volume 9, chapter 13 "The Anatta Potion")

## Not surprisingly, Sakura holds the record!

The characters of *Urusei Yatsura* have a fondness for traditional Chinese ramen—the kind that comes in a classic Chinese noodle bowl adorned at the edges with square spiral designs.

We counted up the bowls of ramen they consume in the series, eliminating ambiguous incidences when the noodles might be udon or the like (since the characters are not in a ramen shop and the bowls lack any telltale markings). In total, the characters consume 110 bowls of ramen over the course of the series!

Predictably, Sakura the glutton consumes the largest number, at 61 bowls. This is not to say that there are 61 scenes in which Sakura is eating ramen—the number includes the 58 bowls she eats during the Miss Tomobiki Contest (volume 9, chapter 19 "Miss Tomobiki Contest: Finals").

The other characters' tallies also include empty bowls piled near them, not only bowls they are seen to be eating. A packaged cup ramen Mendo is about to eat is not counted, nor is an envelope of instant ramen mix consumed by Sato the Turkey, since these are not bowls of ramen.



Anyway

▲ The characters go on to drink every last drop of soup, but they don't seem to enjoy it (volume 12, chapter 6 "Lethal Attack; Yaminabe!")

#### Lum's surprising connection to ramen!

By the way, the square spiral shapes that decorate the edges of Chinese noodle bowls are actually a traditional motif representing lightning bolts. In other words, Lum and the ramen bowls have a surprising common thread!

the number of bowls
consumed, but she
complains that the ramen is
tasteless and seems to be
just hanging out with Ataru
to keep him company.

Urusei Yatsura: 366 Stories in All!

The number of

bowls of ramen

We counted

them up!

#### Total bowls of ramen consumed in Urusei Yatsura

(volume 15, chapter 12 "The Runaway Turkey")

Author: Kyoko Sugimori Concept: Masatake Sugimori

# Urusei Votsura Yatsura

## Part 12



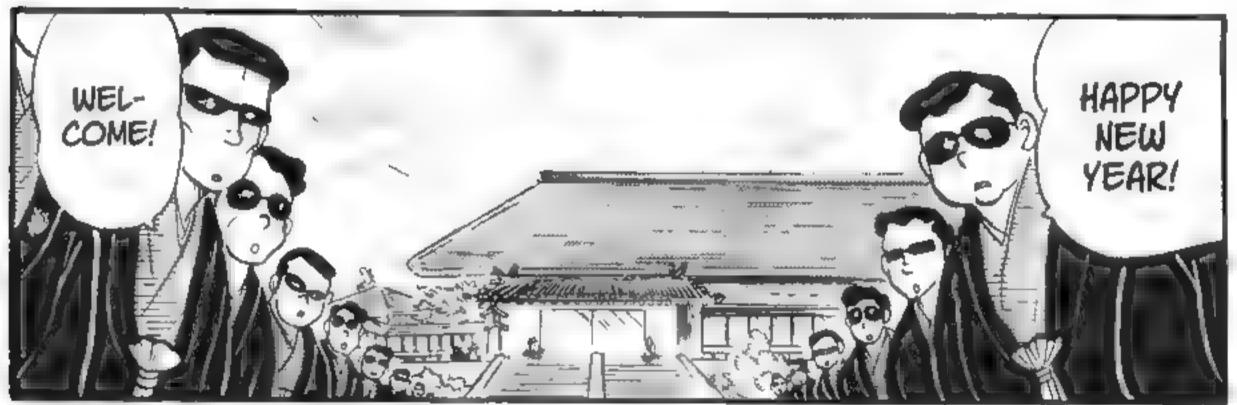
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## CHAPTER 12: A STRANGE NEW YEAR AT THE



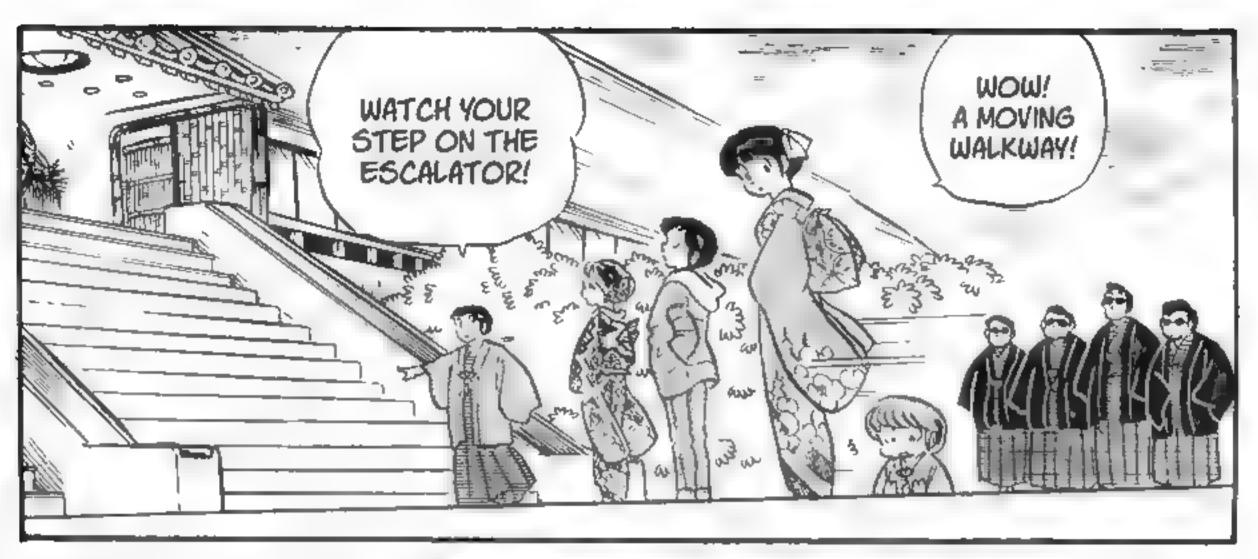










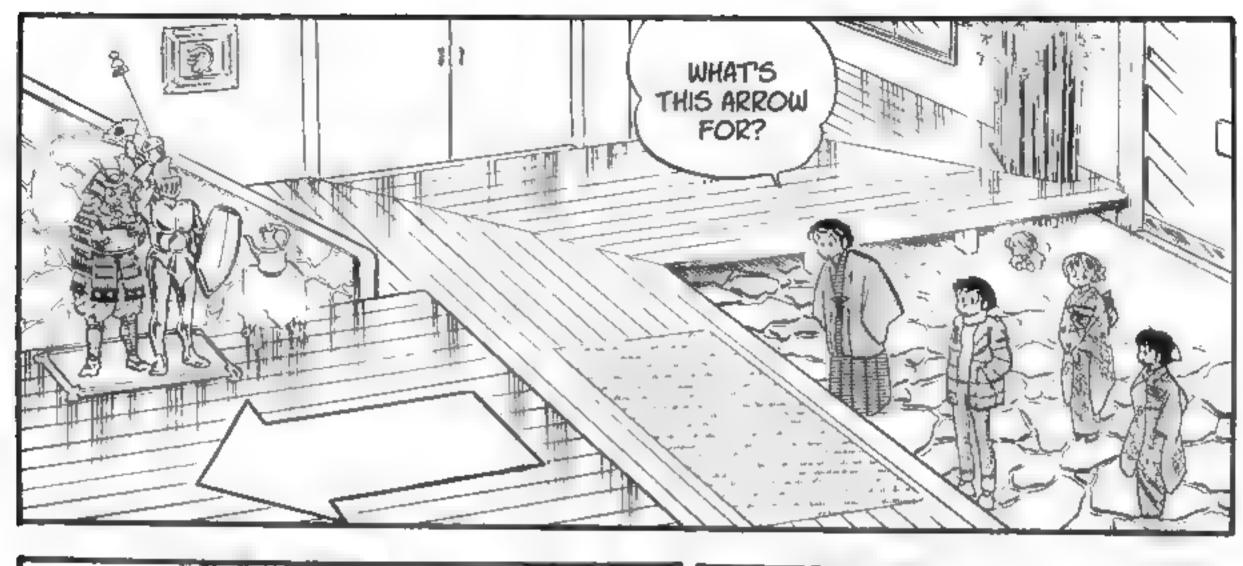




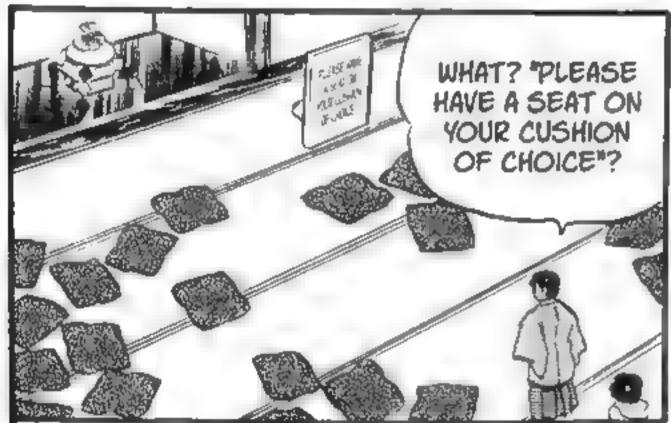


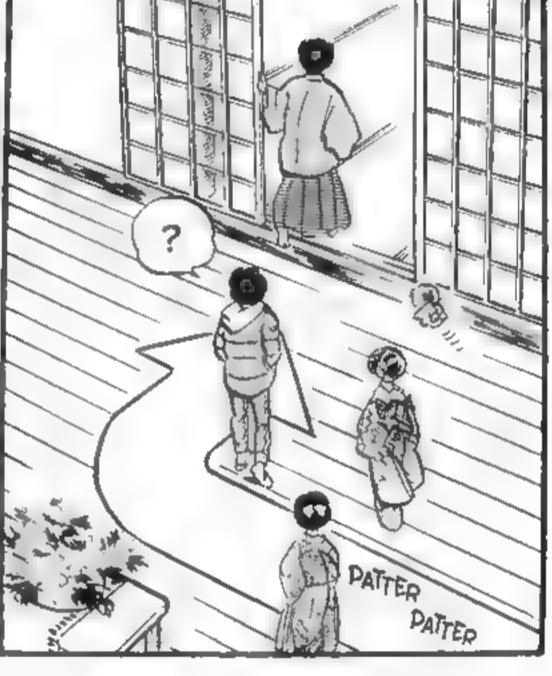










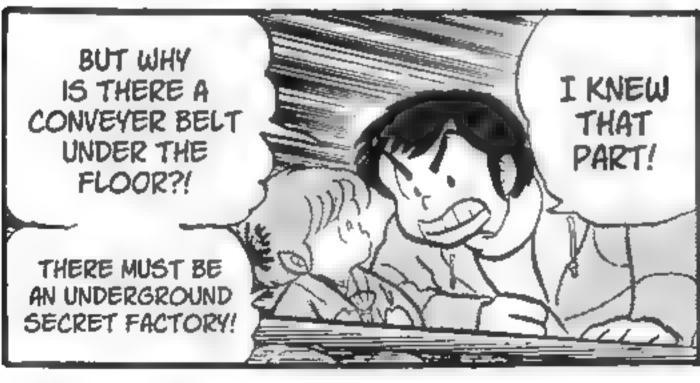






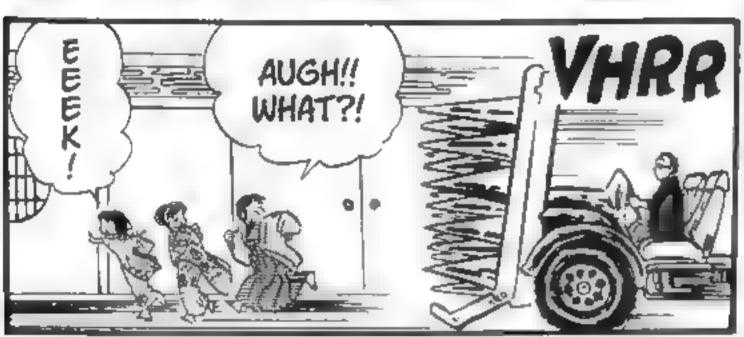




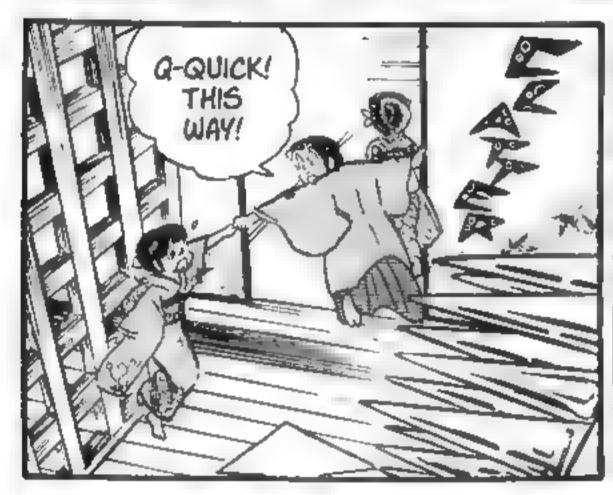




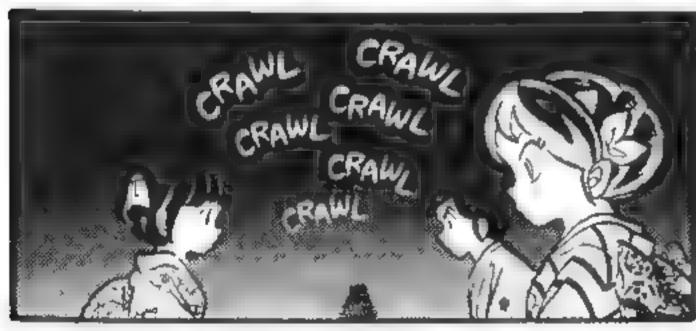


















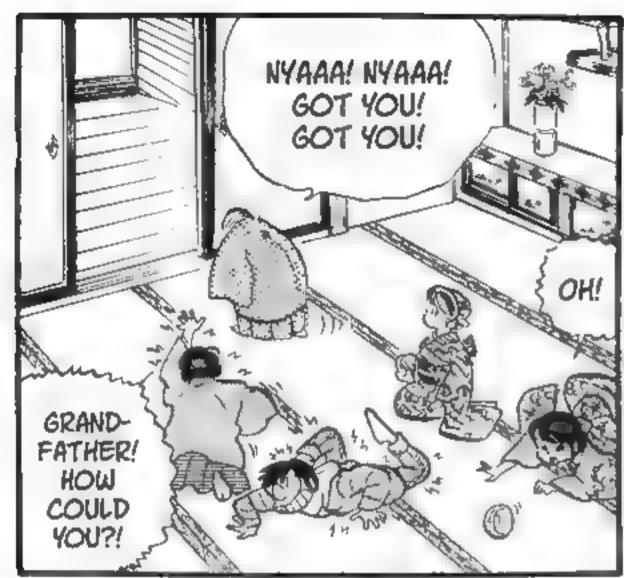












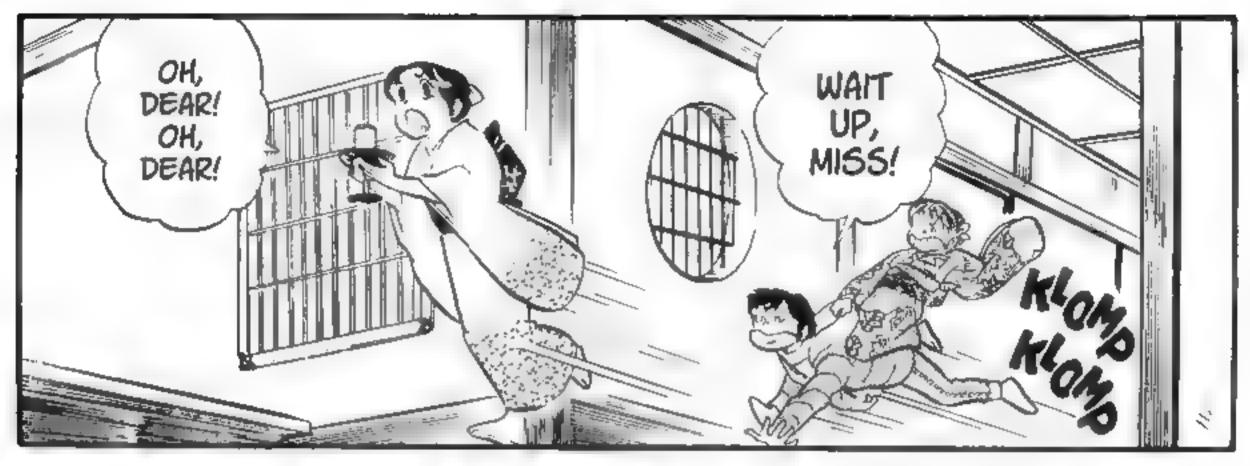


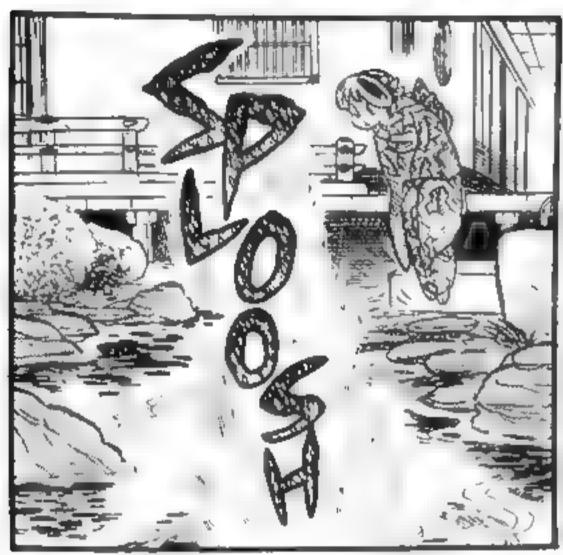


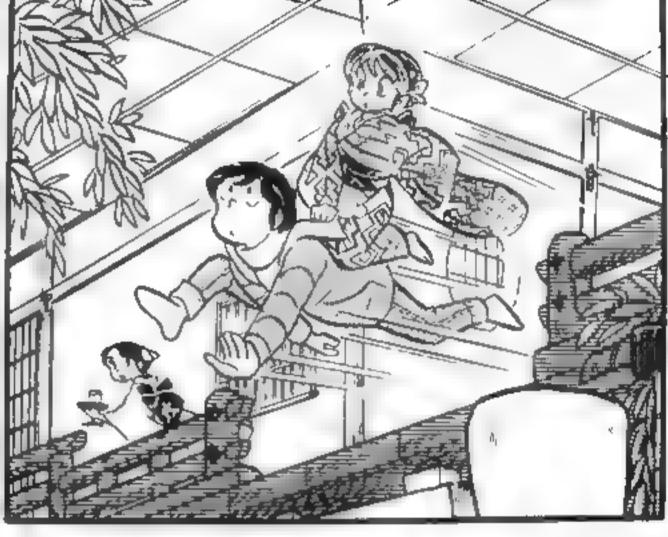






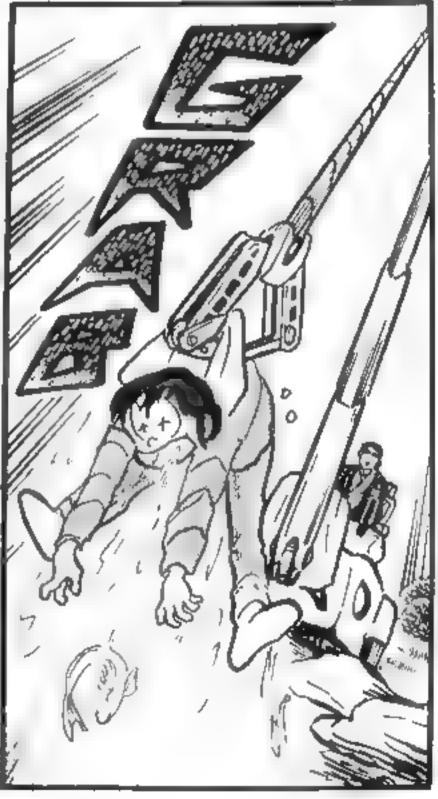


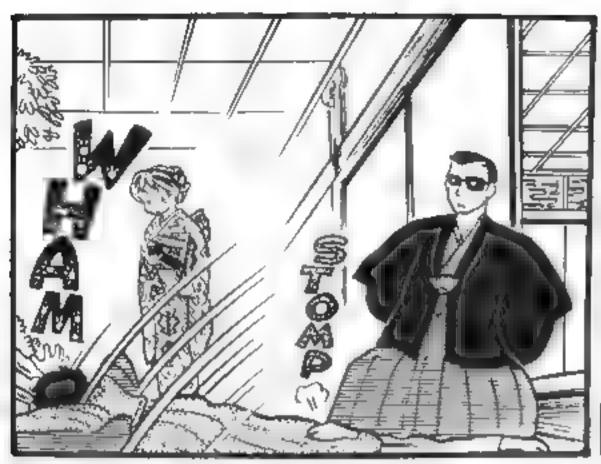
















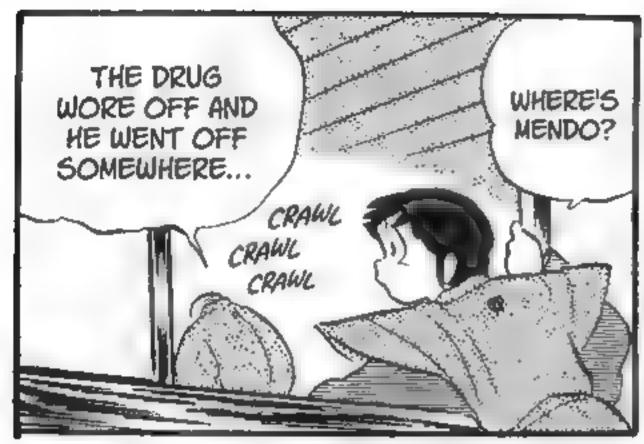


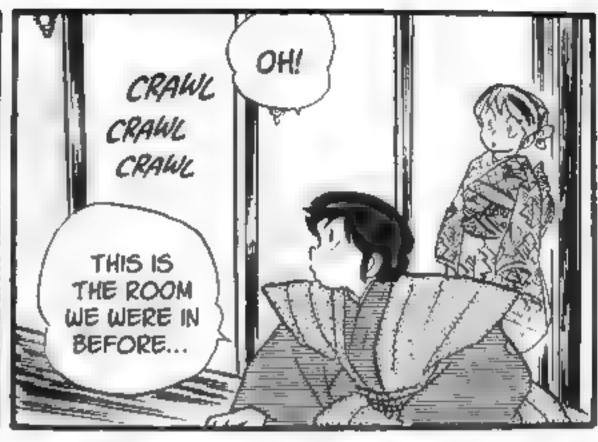












































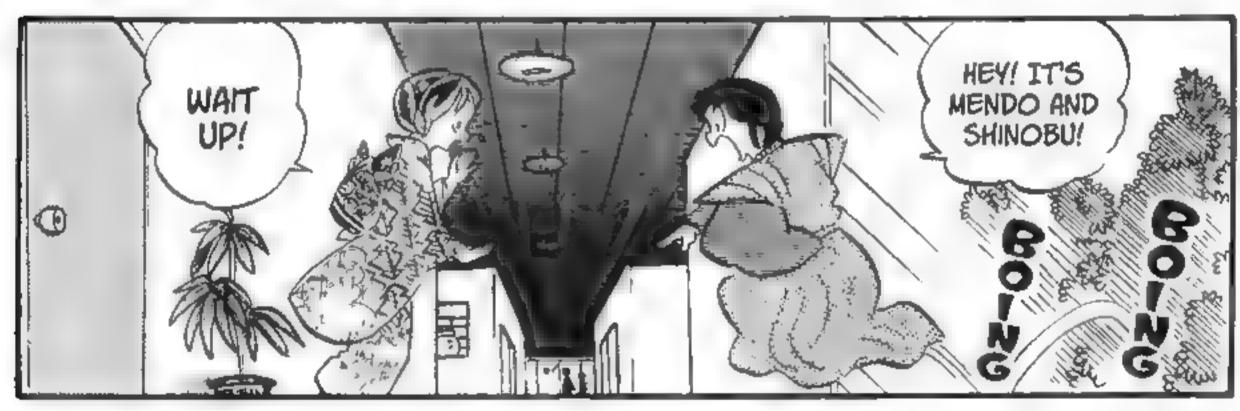


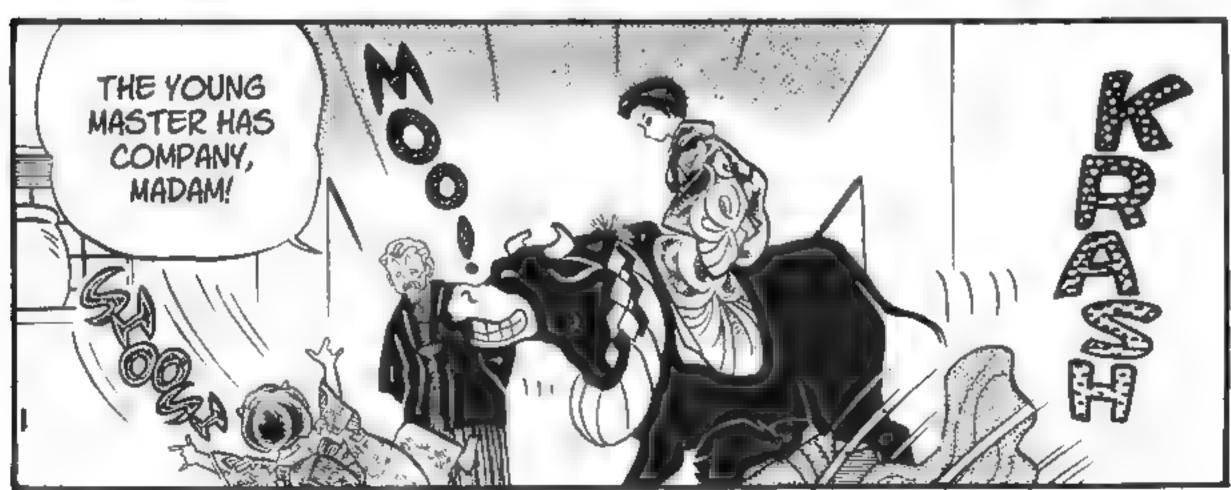




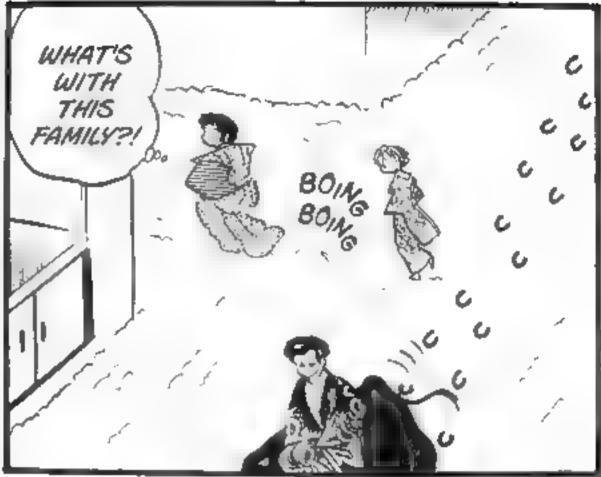


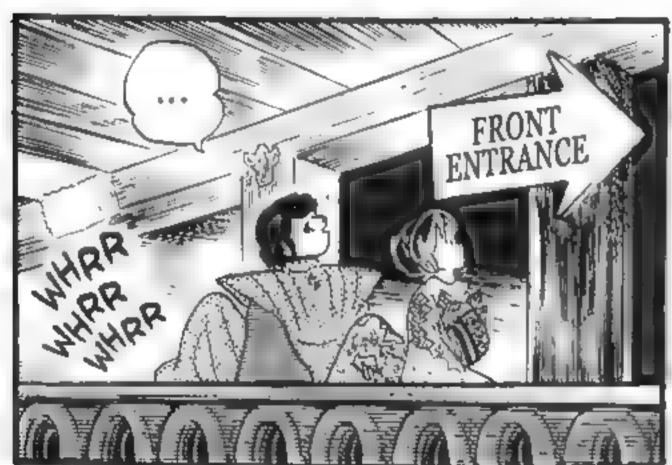










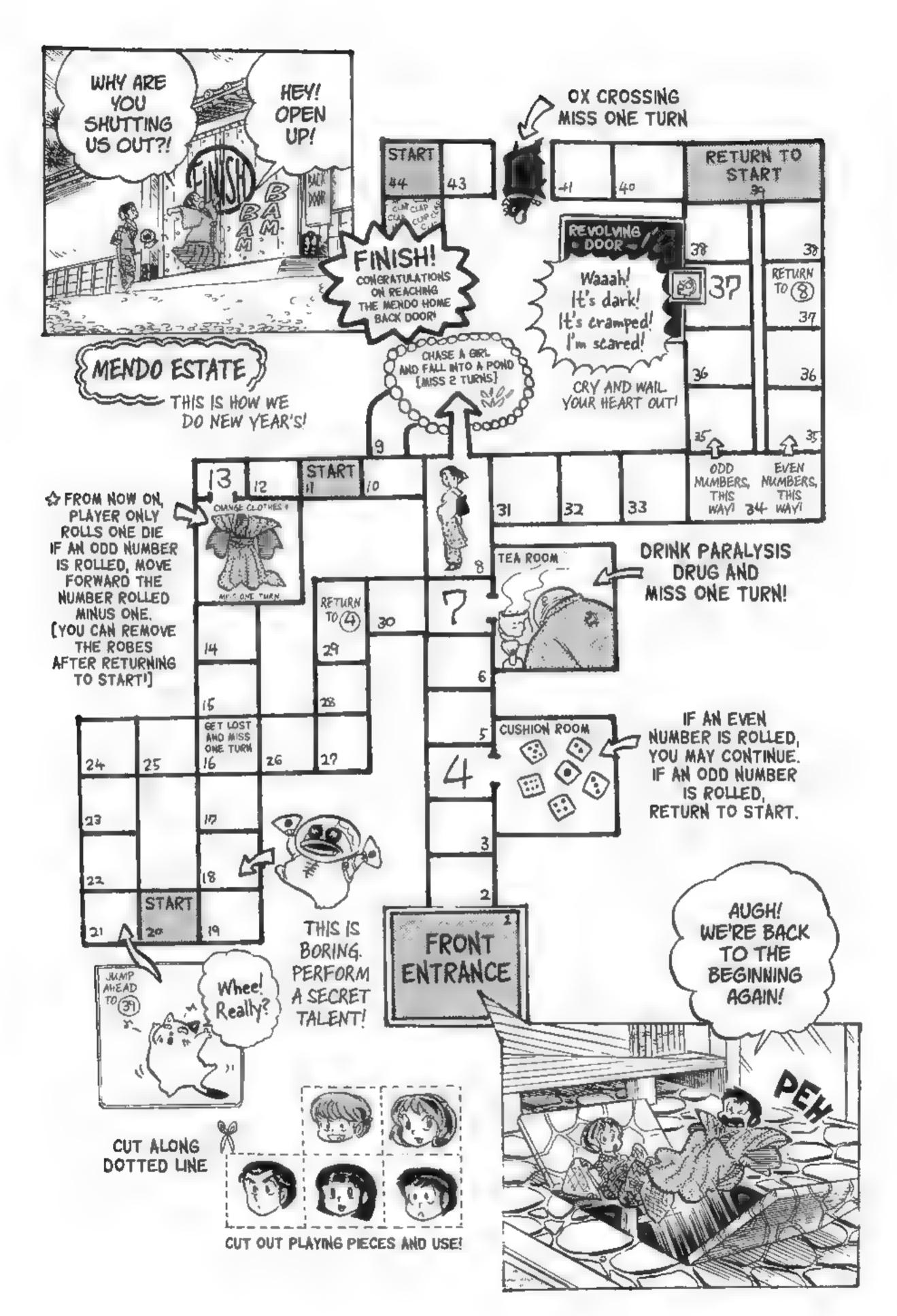






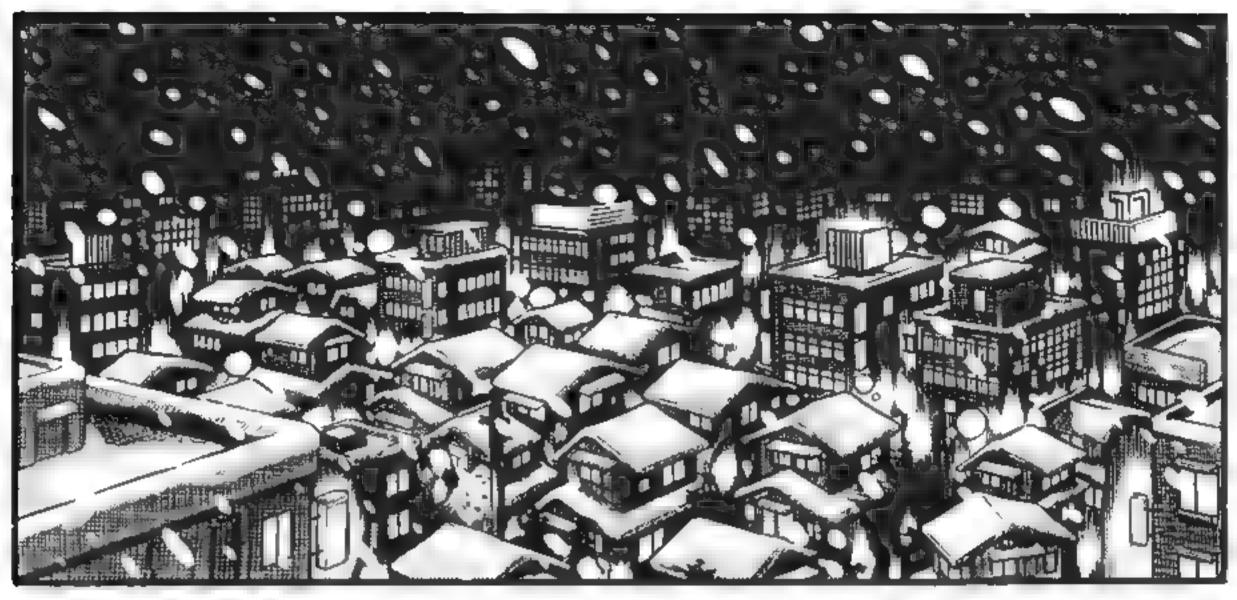






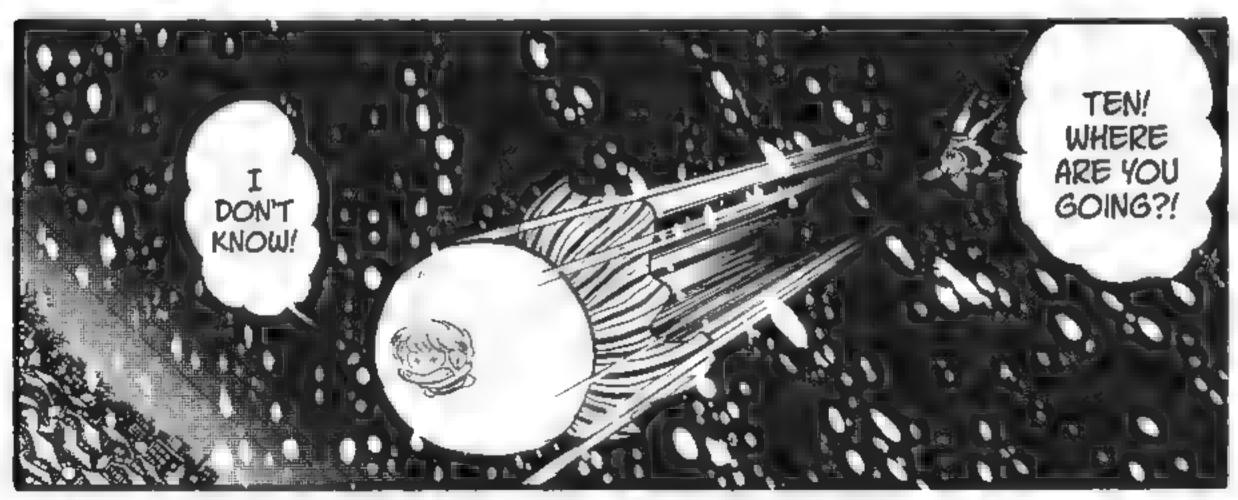
# CHAPTER 138 TAVES OF A WANDERING SNOWMAN



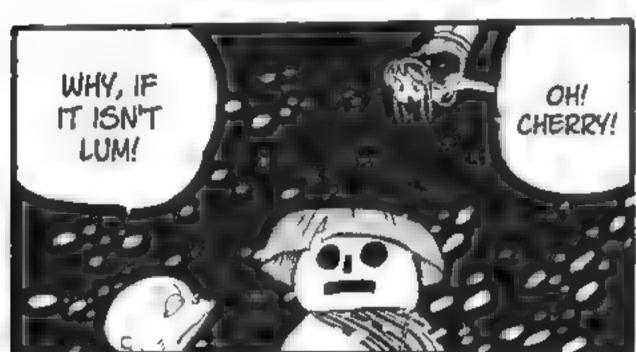






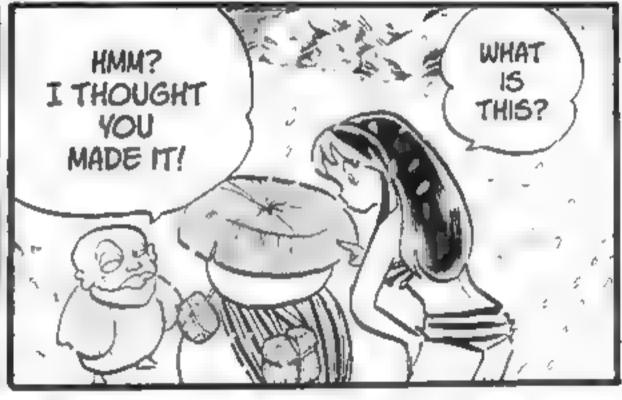


















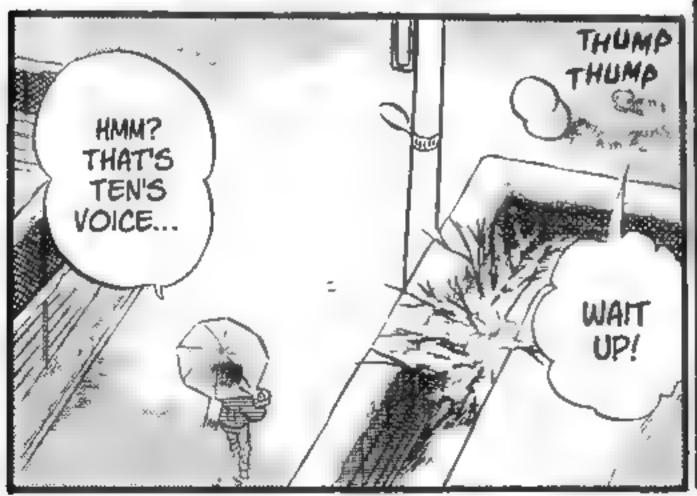








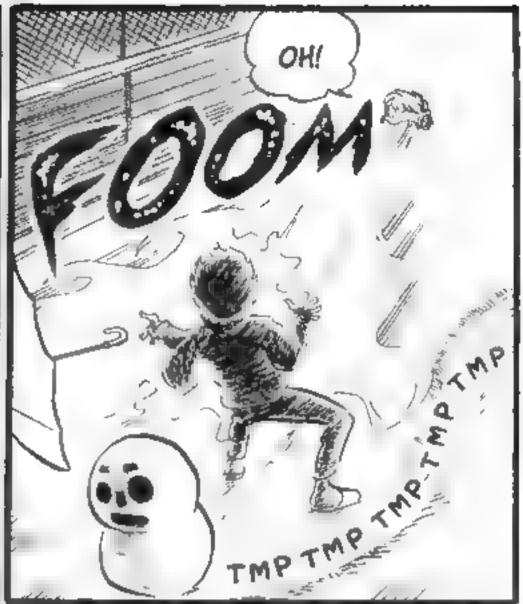








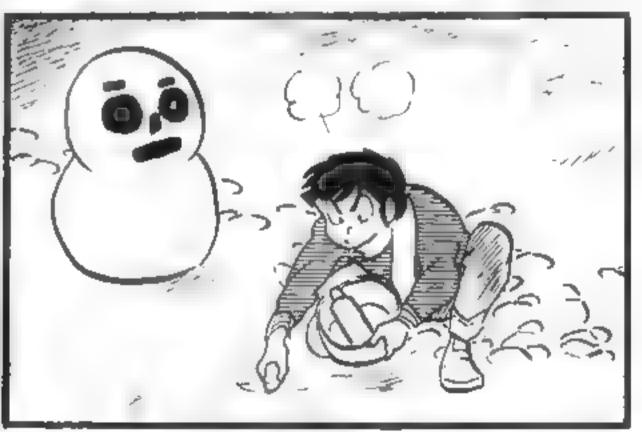












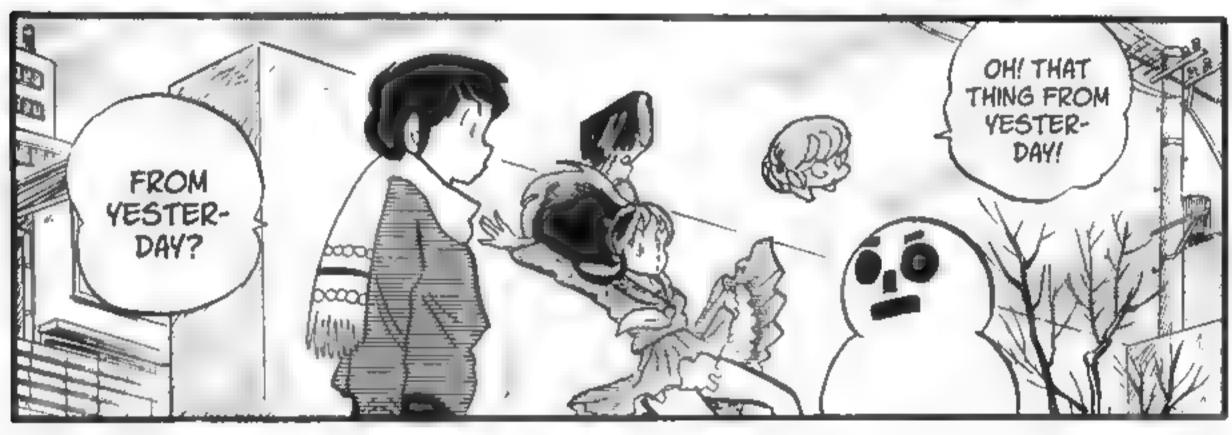




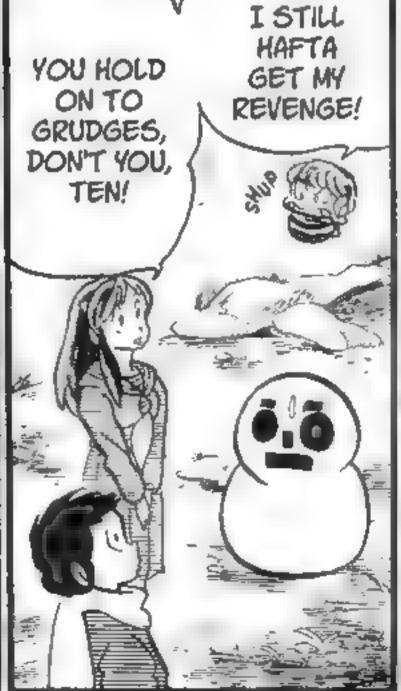


























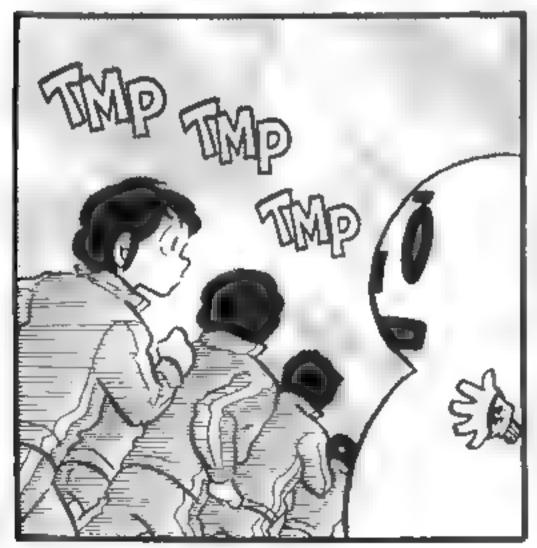




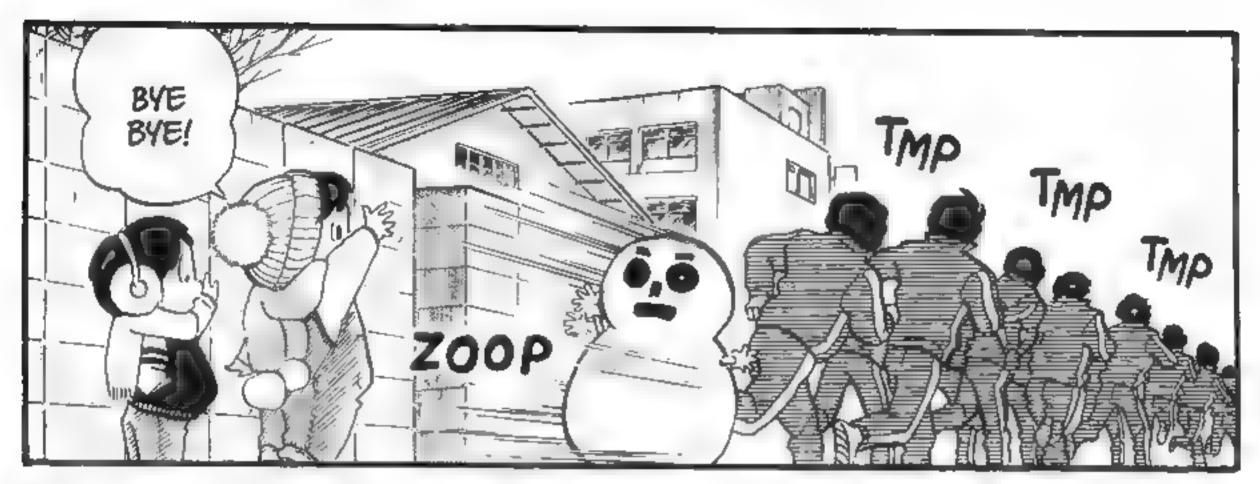




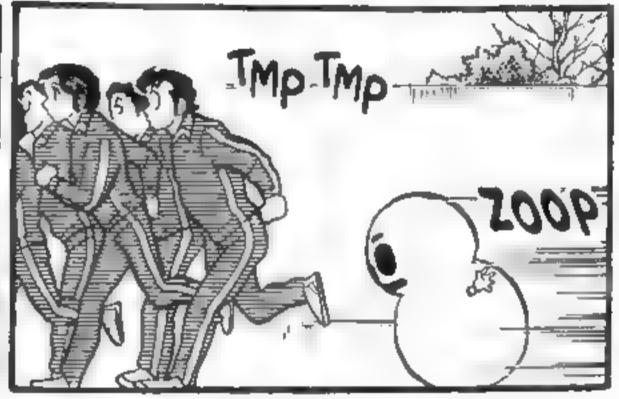










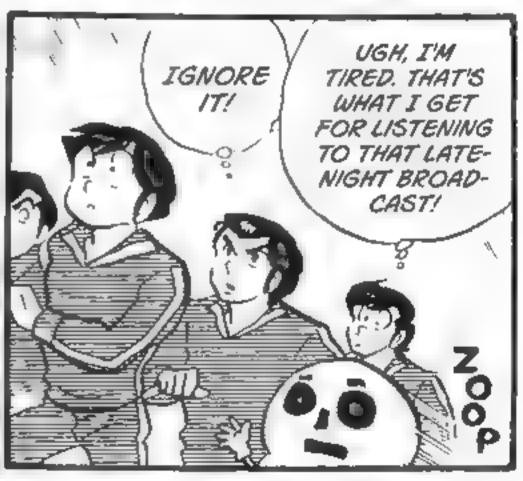












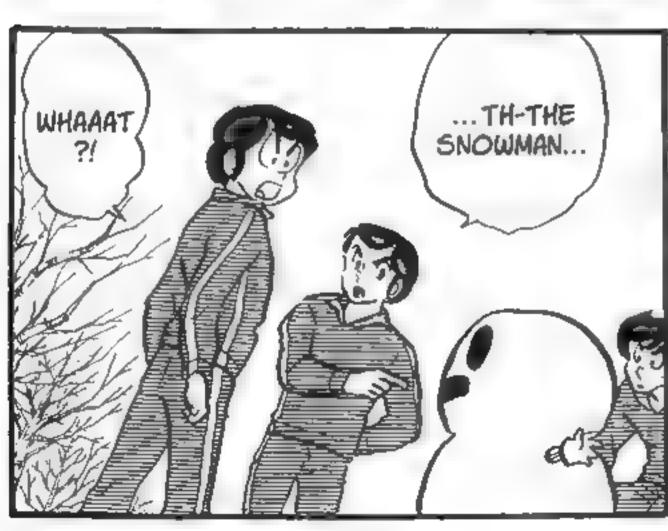






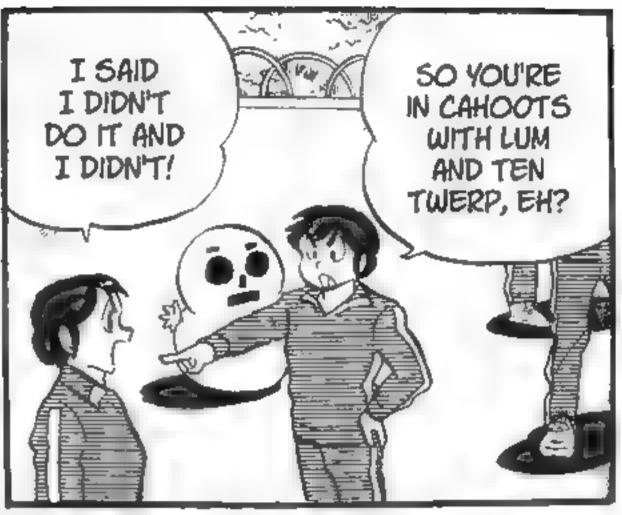


























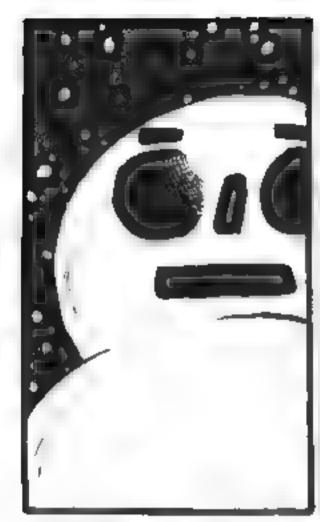






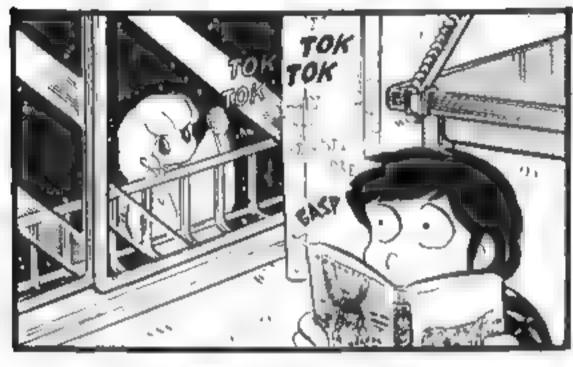


















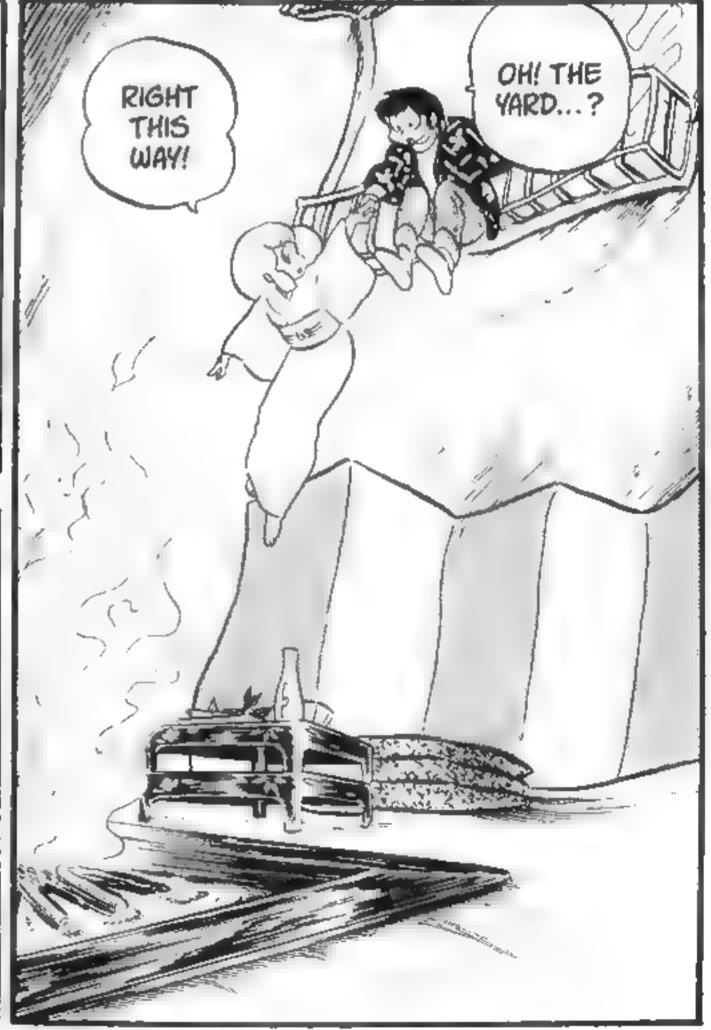


























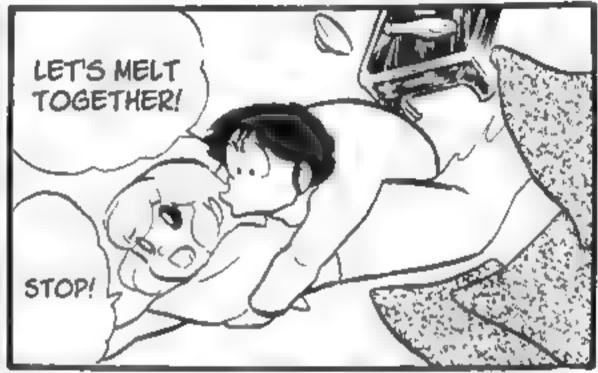












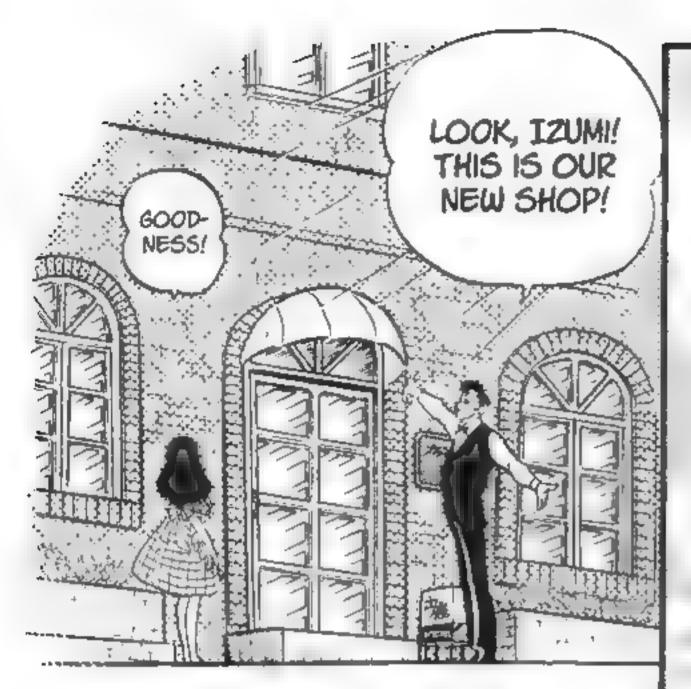






## CHAPTER 14: THE COFFEE SHOP





WE MOVED INTO
A NEIGHBORHOOD
OVERLOOKING
A SCHOOL...







TING-A-ING FROM DAY 1, THE SHOP WAS WEL-COME! FLOODED WITH CUSTOMERS! HOW ABOUT A DATE, SWEETIE? HUH? SHE SURE IS BEAUTI-FUL! HOW OLD DYOU THINK SHE IS? HER DAD RUNS THIS PLACE, HUH?











WE'RE MAKING MONEY, AND ISN'T THAT WHAT MATTERS?









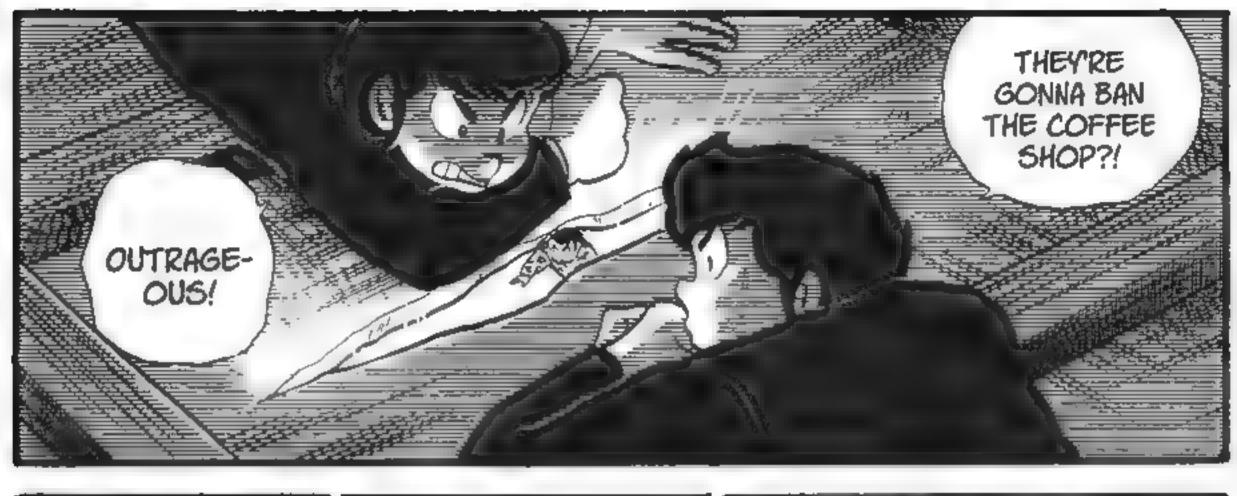




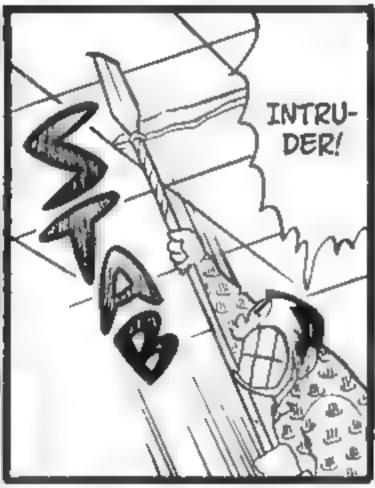




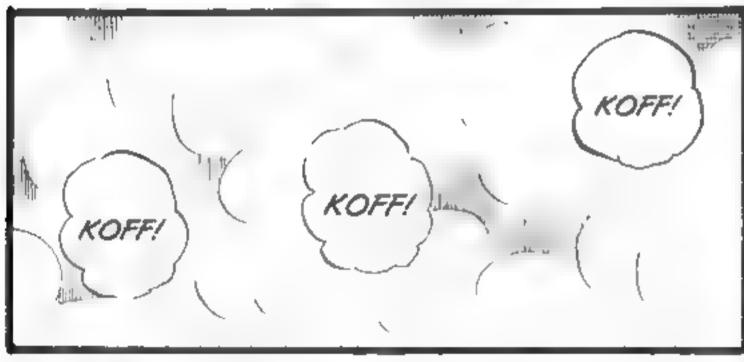






































































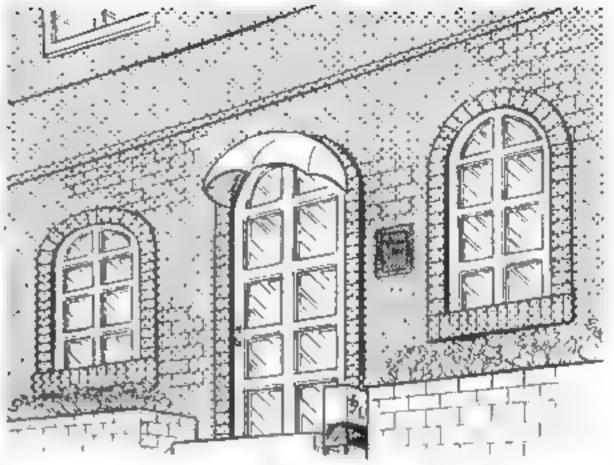


































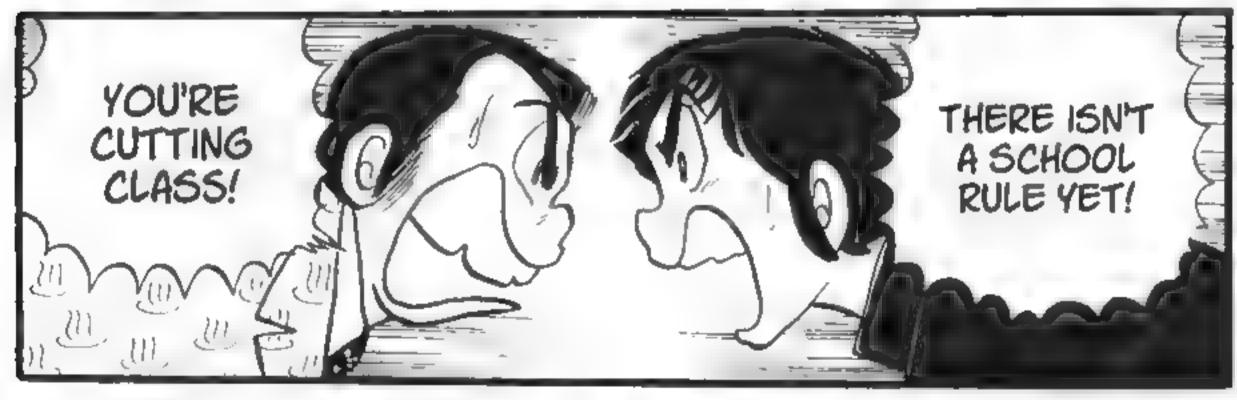










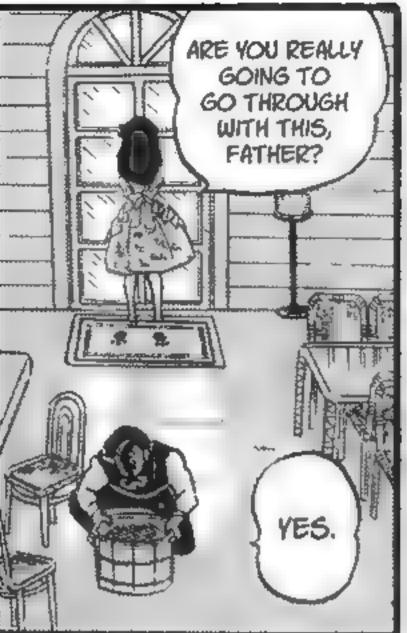


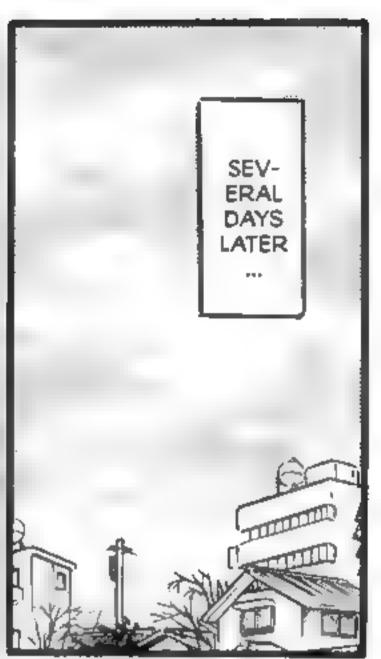
















































HELLO? YES, THIS IS TOMOBIKI HIGH.

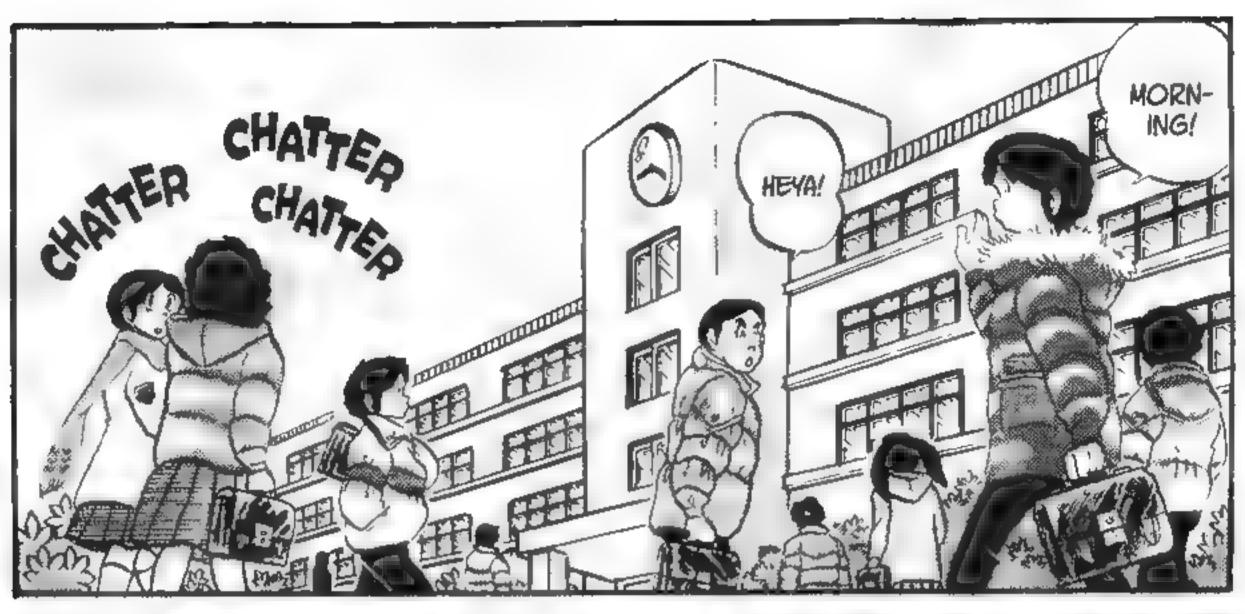
I'D LIKE 50 ORDERS OF TEMPURA ON RICE, RIGHT AWAY!



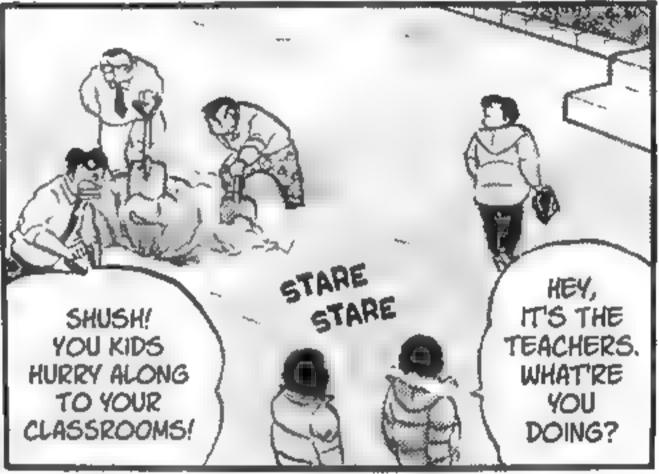


## CHAPTER 15: LOCKER INSPECTIONS







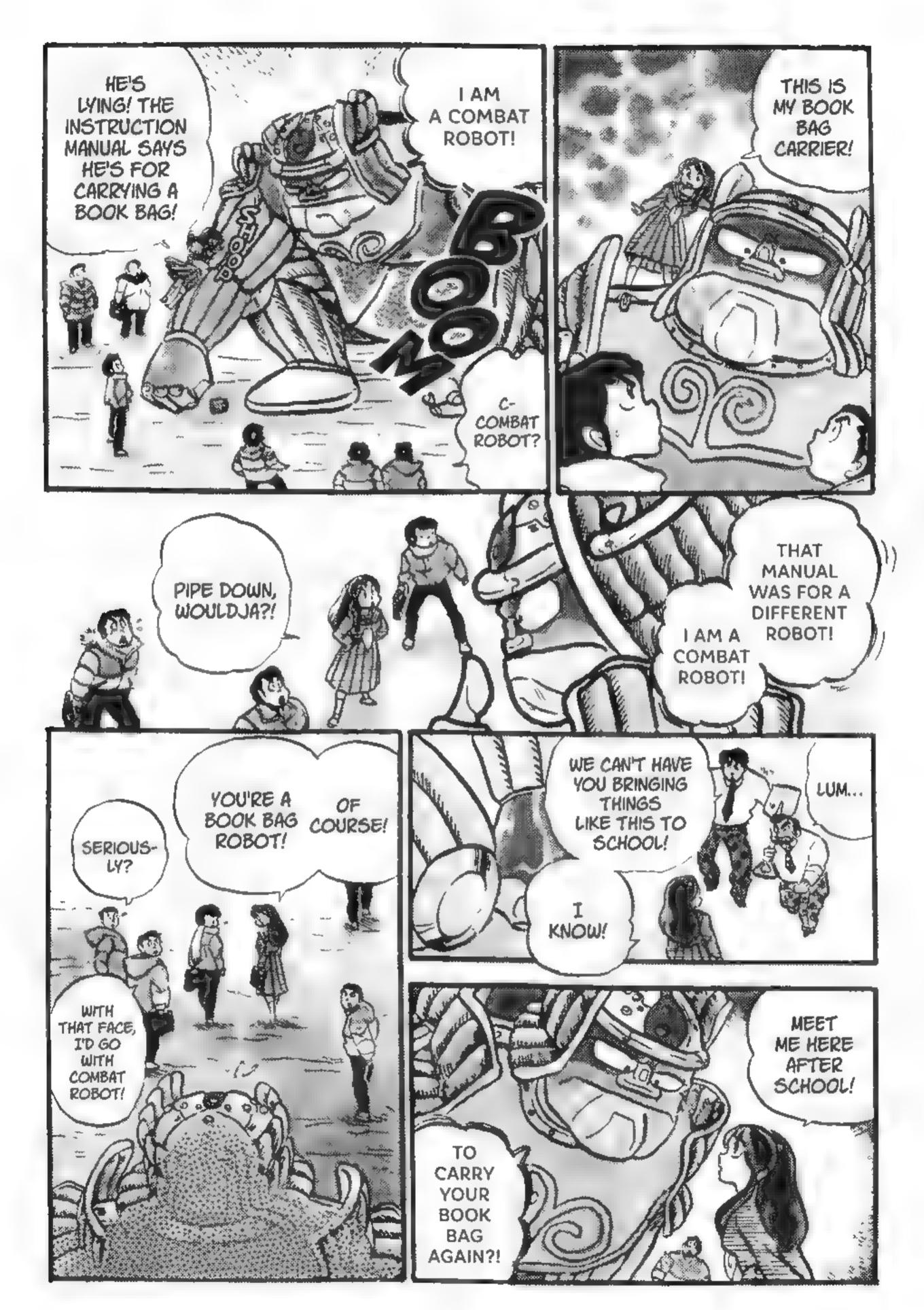


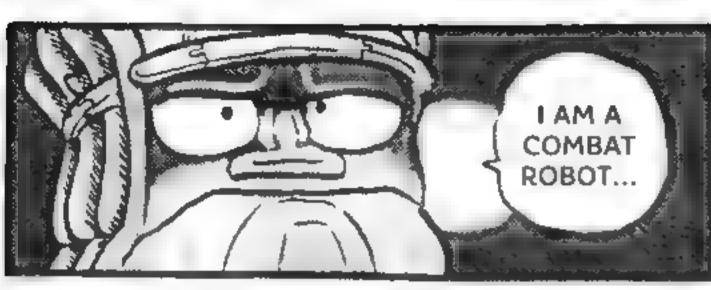


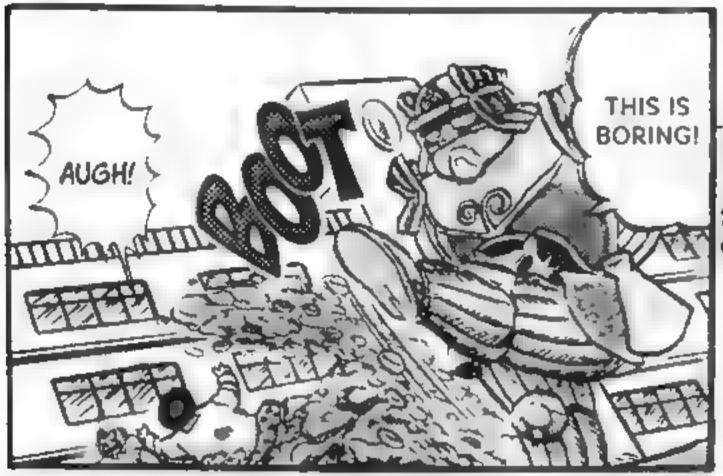






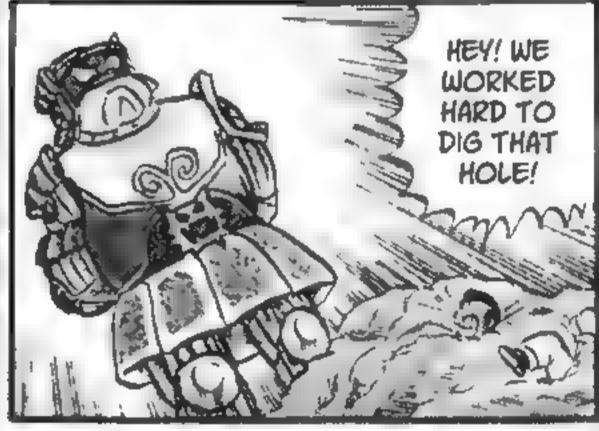


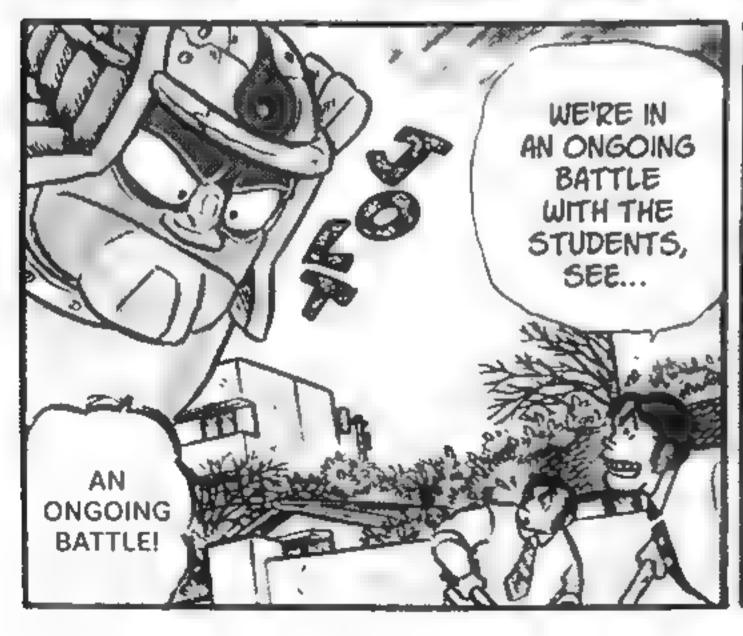


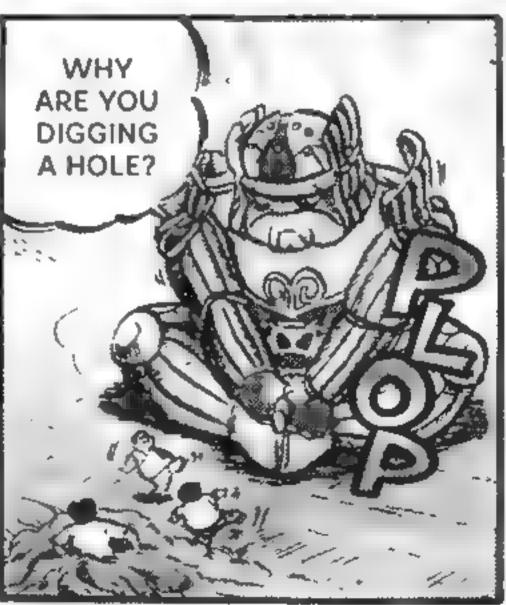


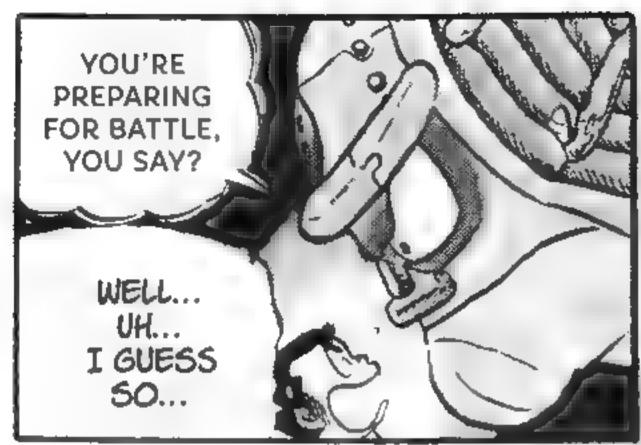




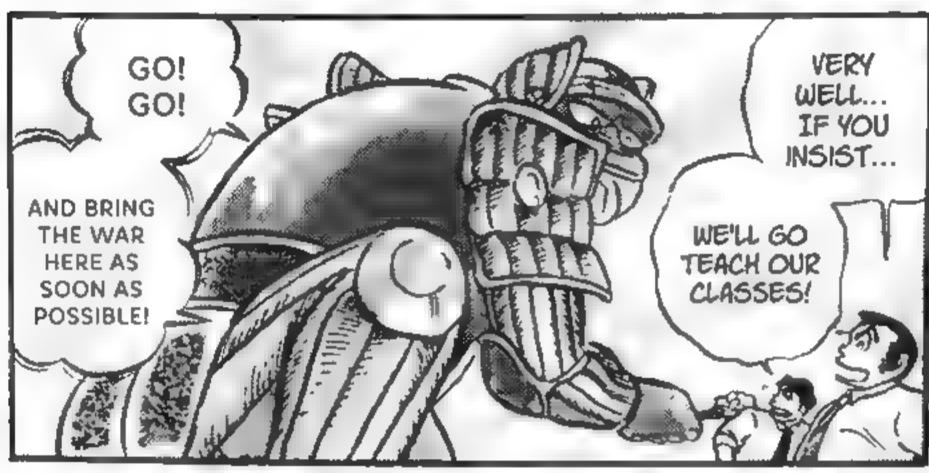




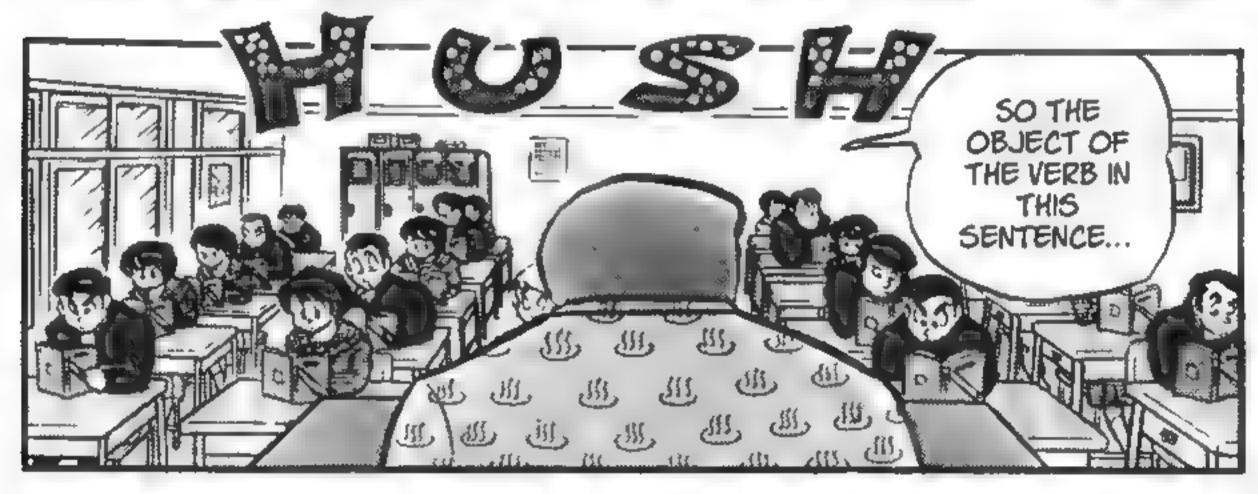


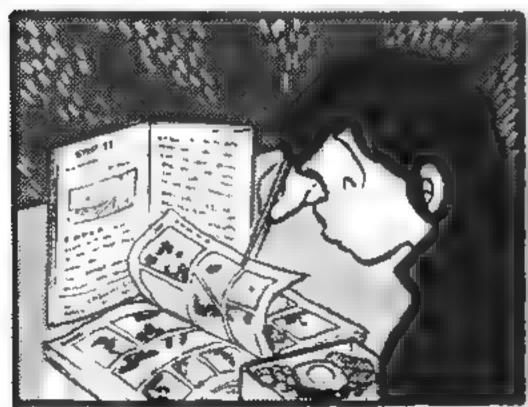


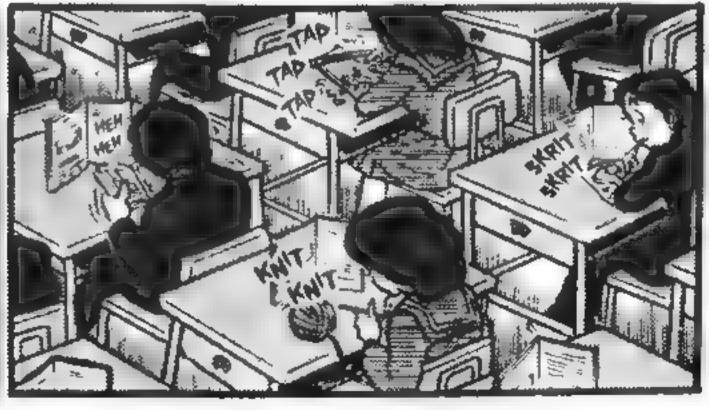
















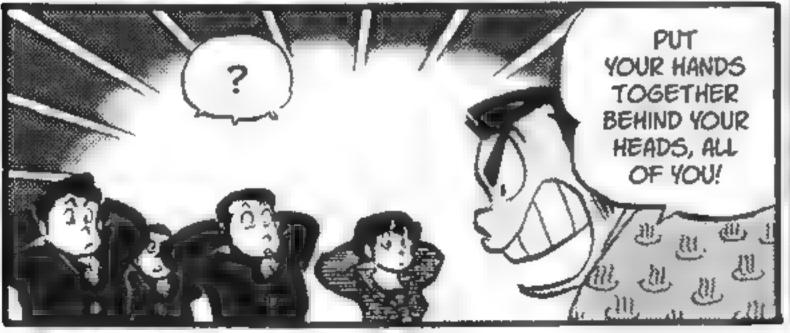






NEXT, WE
INTRODUCE
THE FUNCTIONS
OF THE UNIT'S
VARIOUS
PARTS...

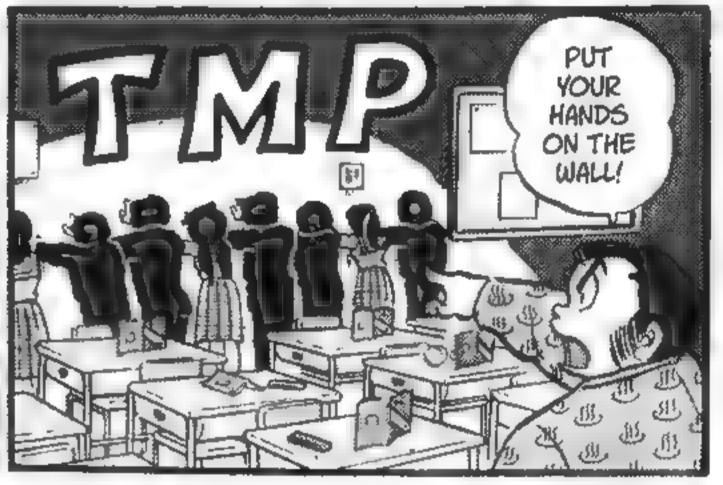


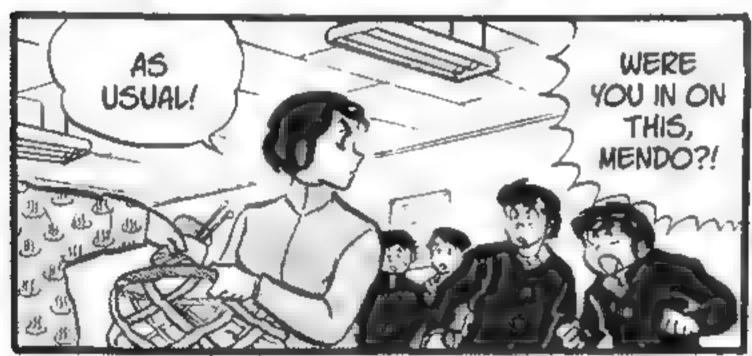






































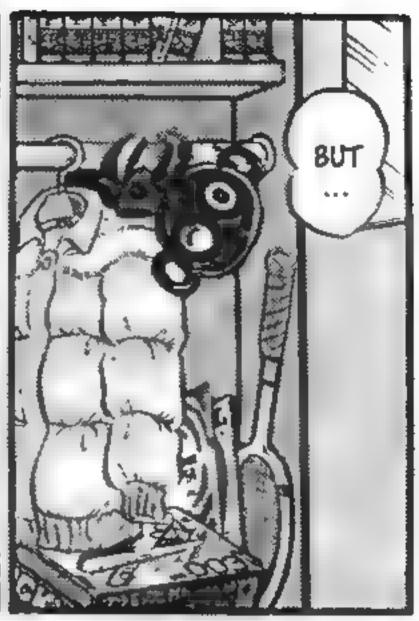










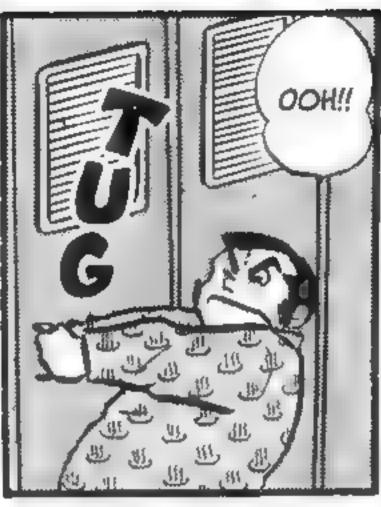














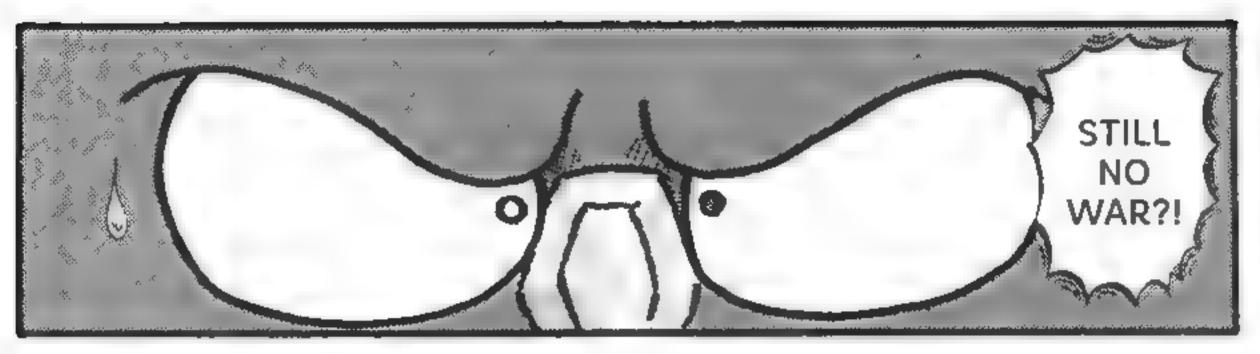






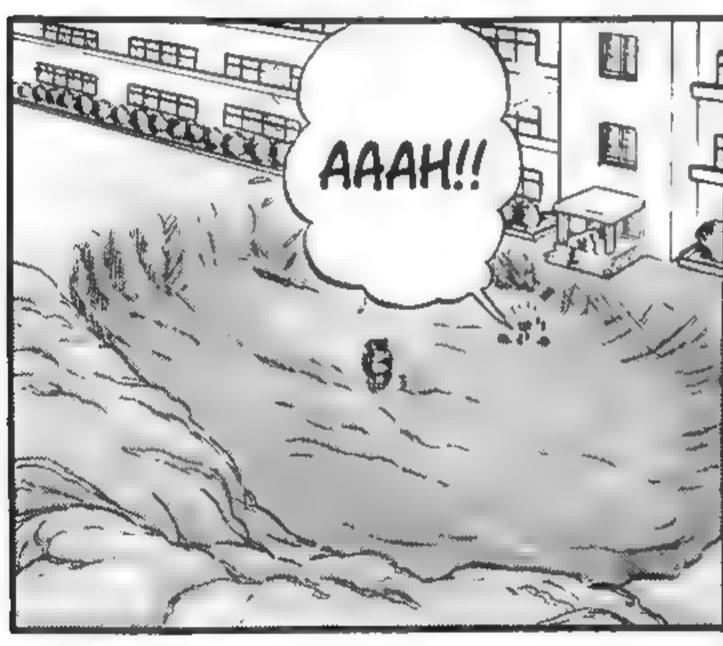




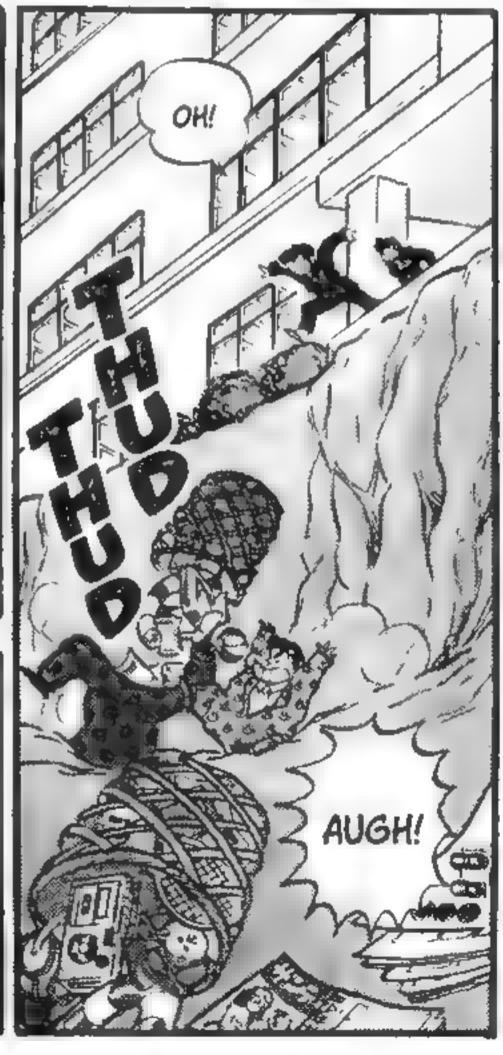






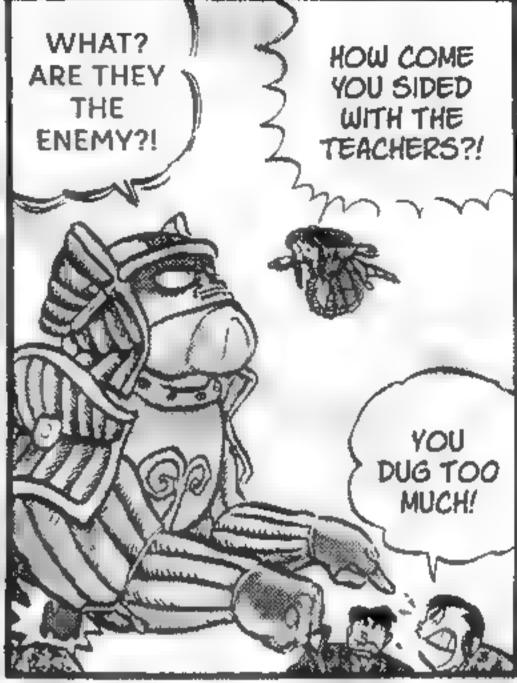






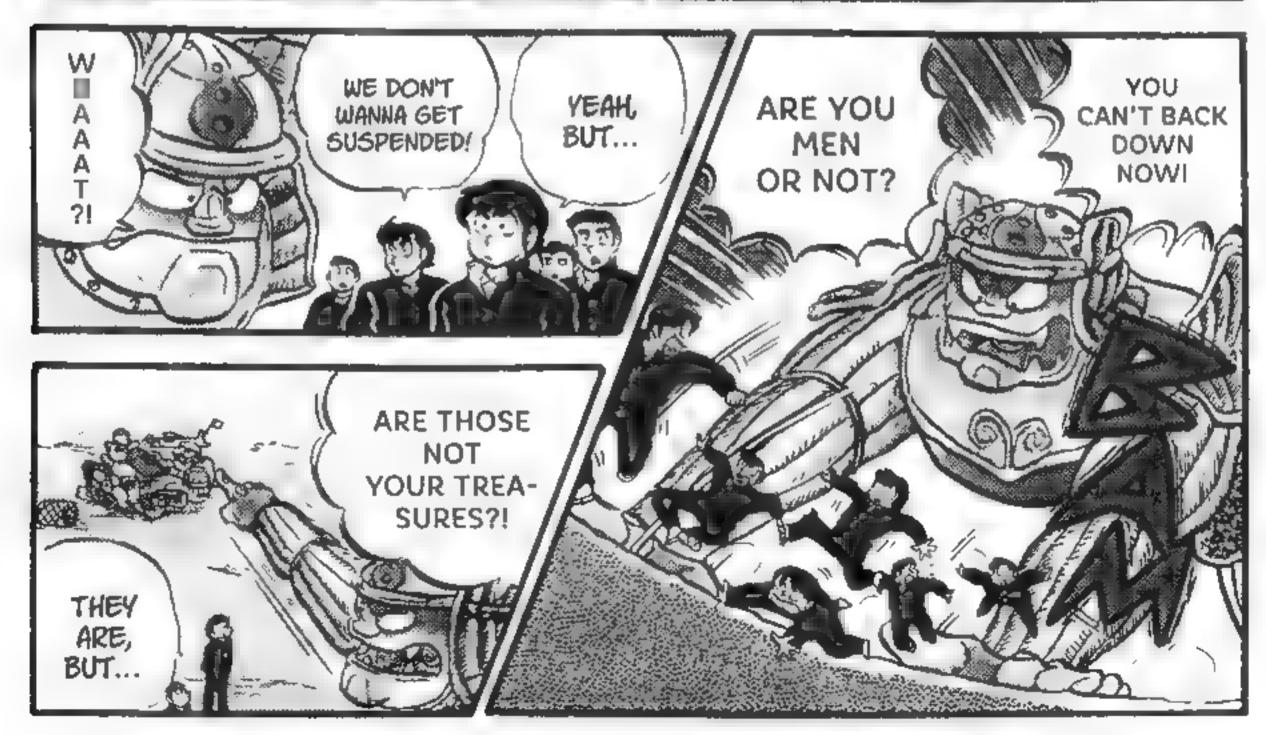


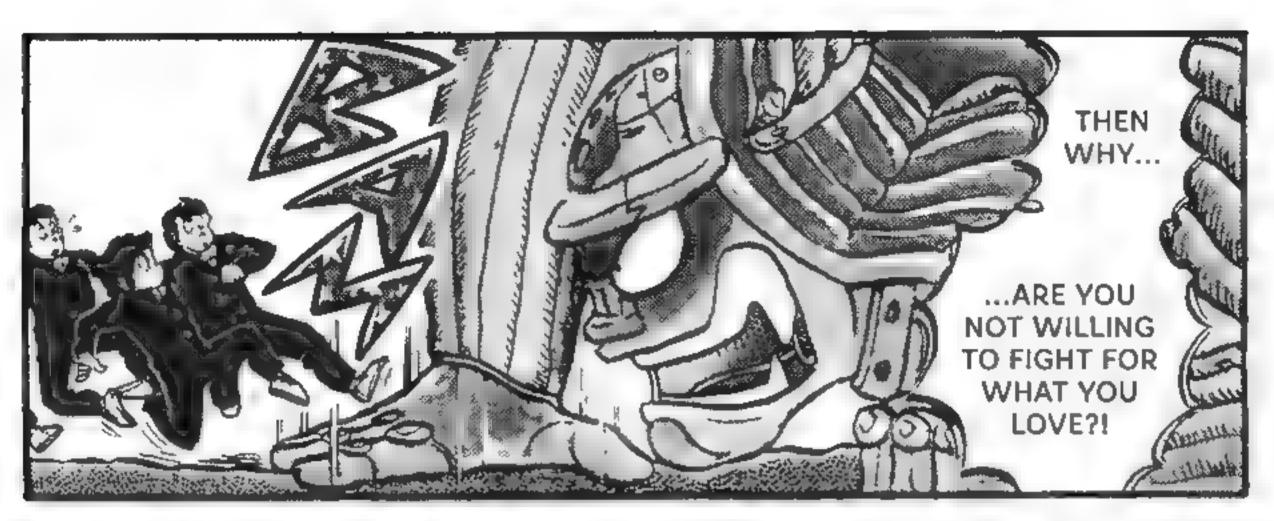


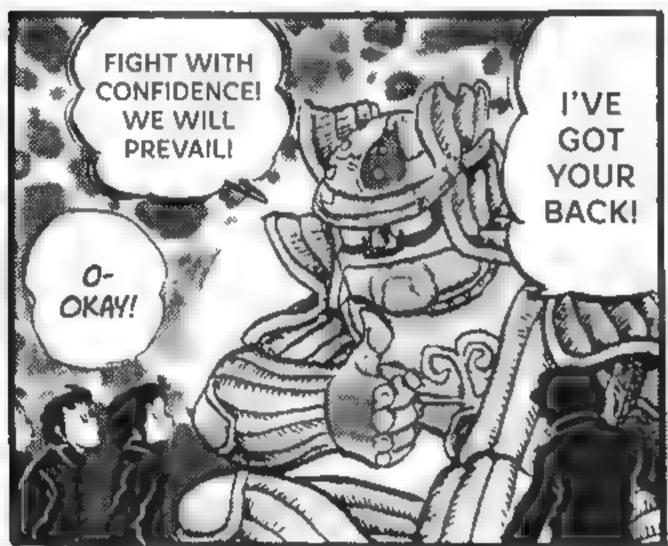


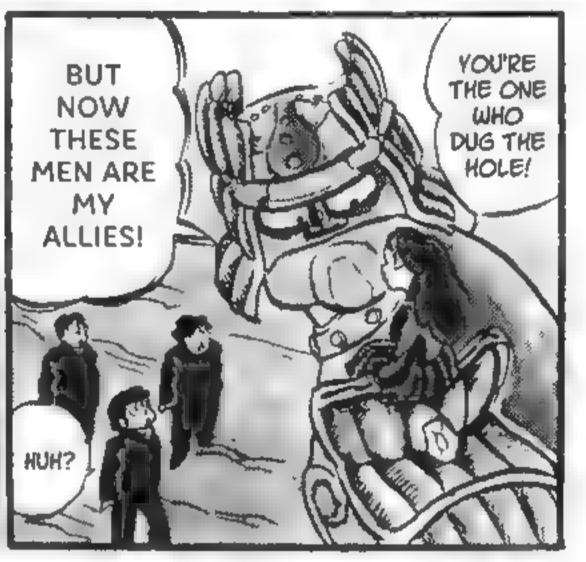










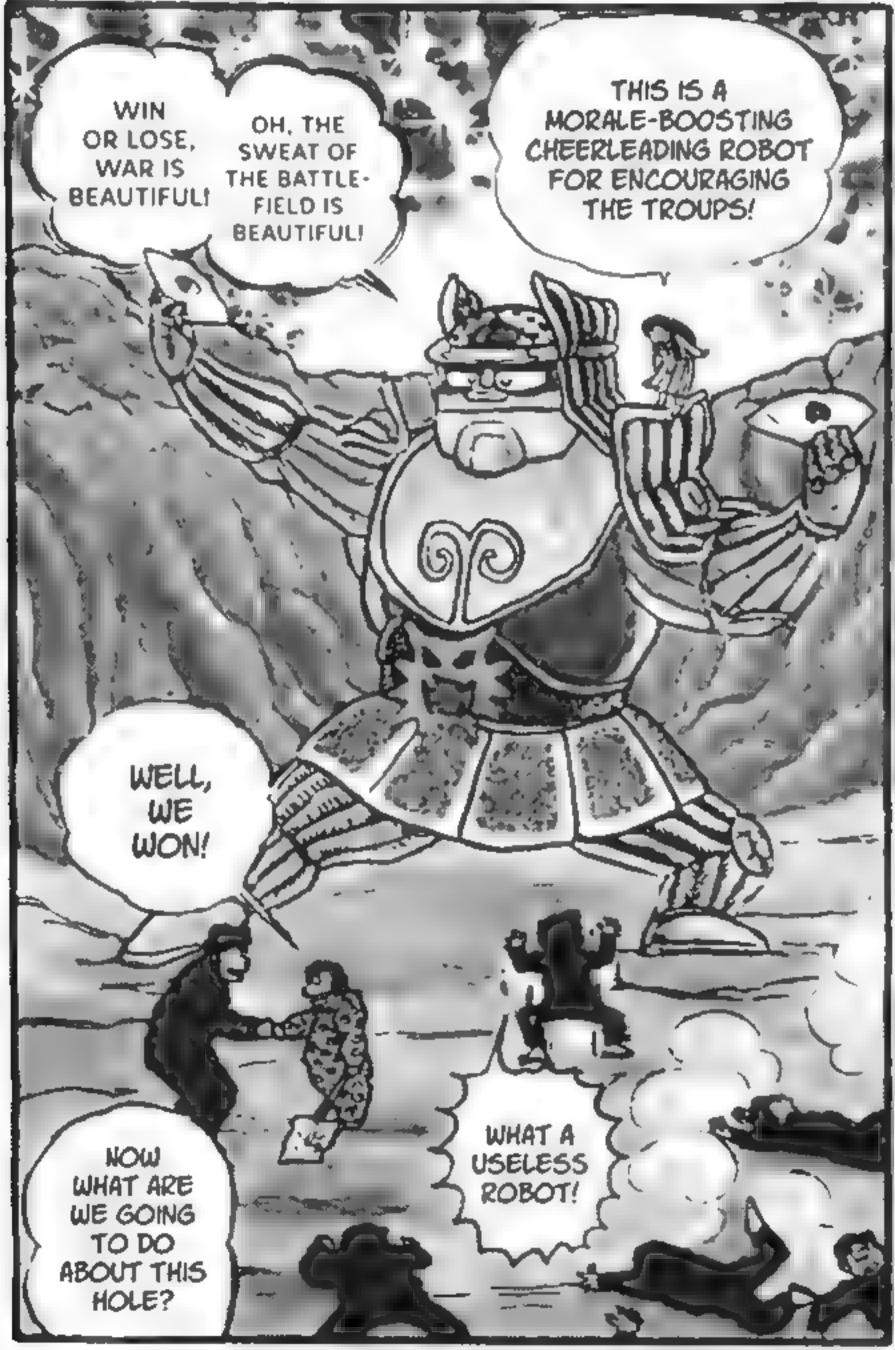






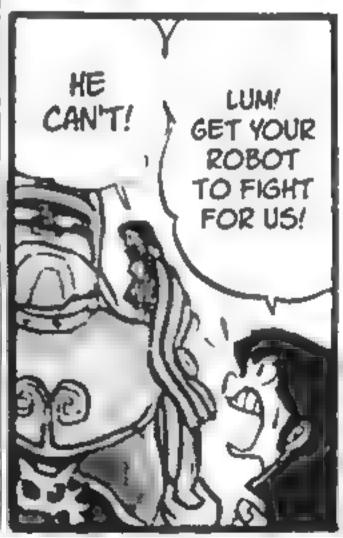






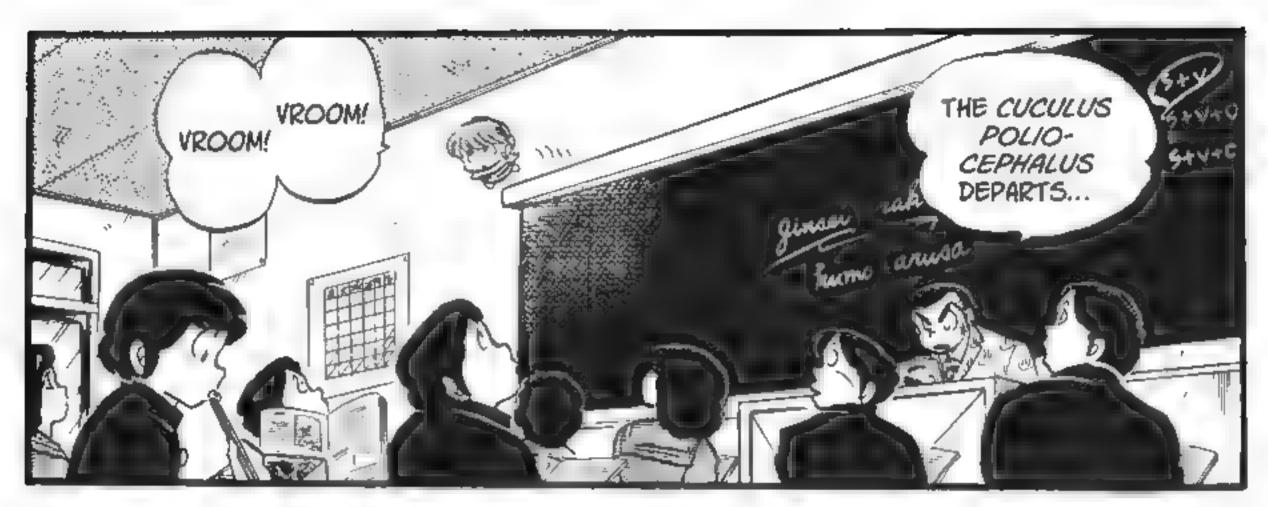






## CHAPTER 16: ALIEN INVASION





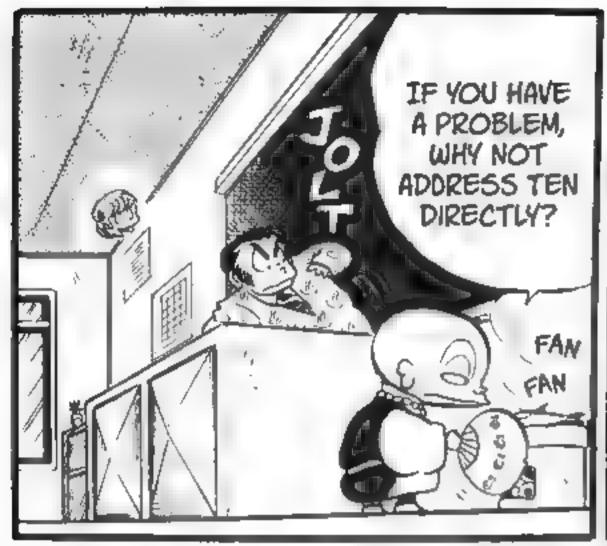


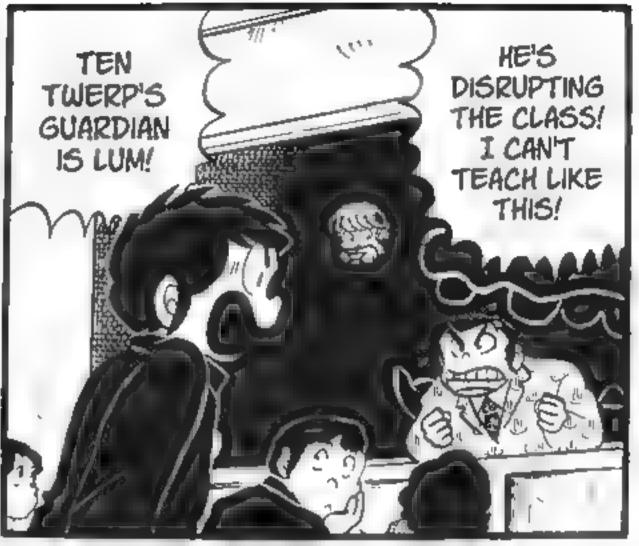








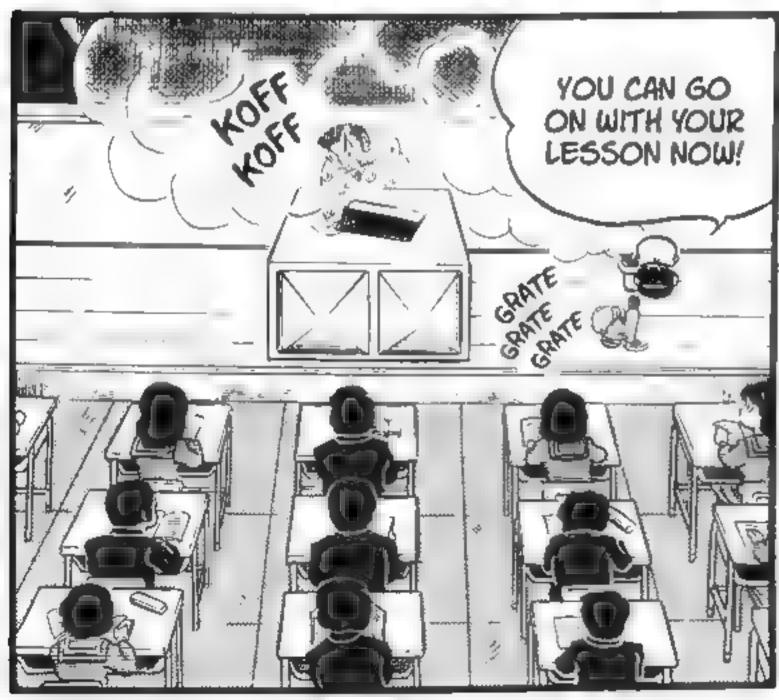




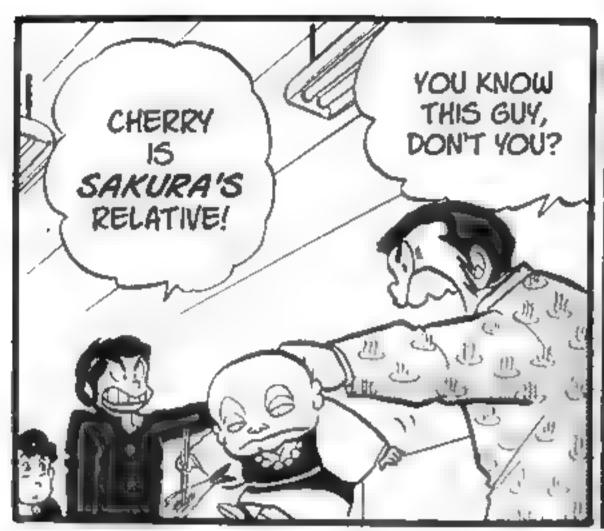


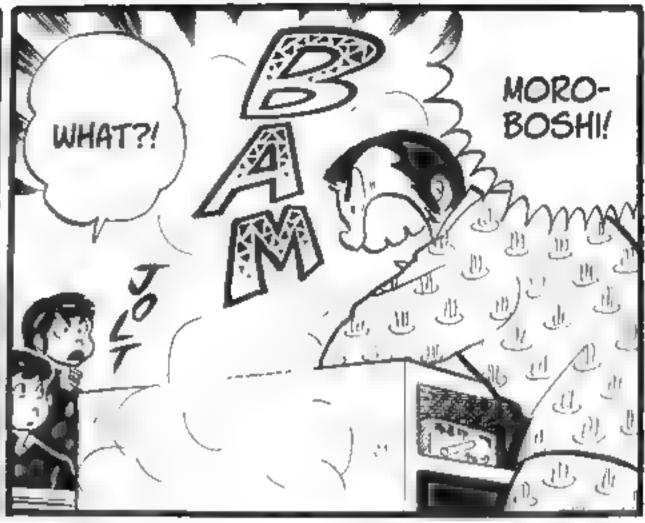




























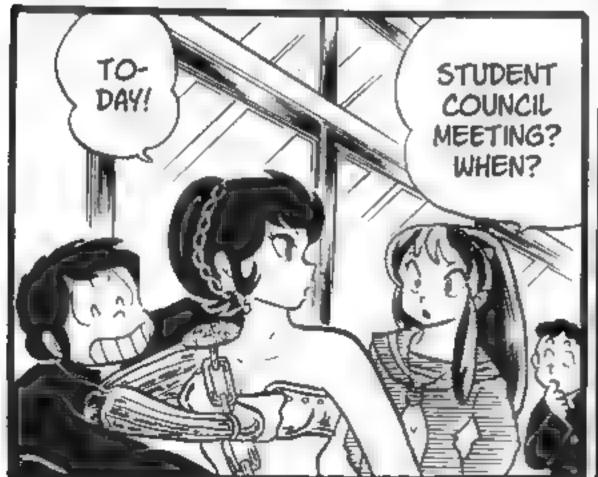


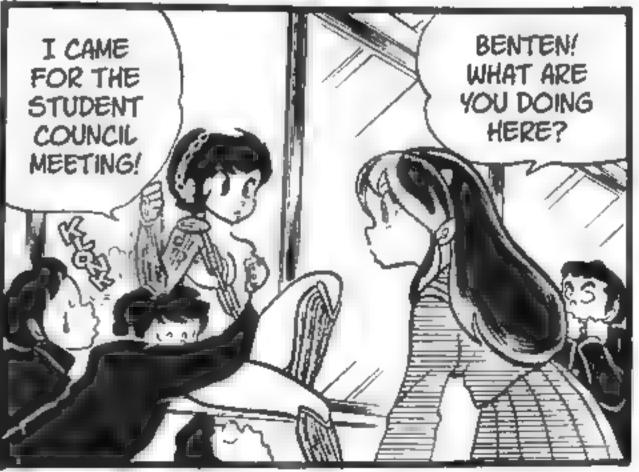






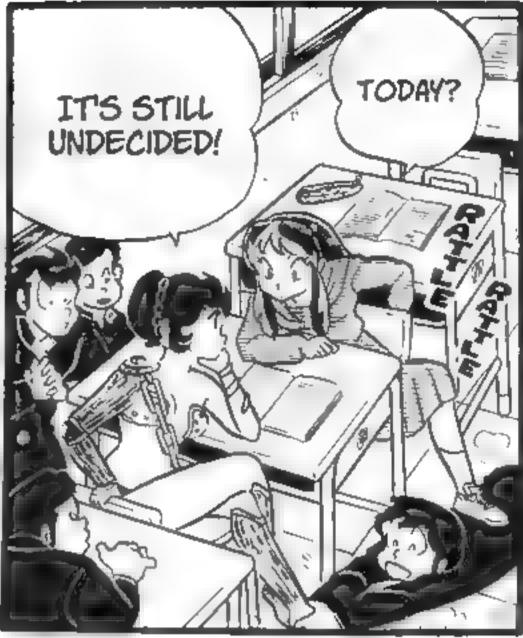
































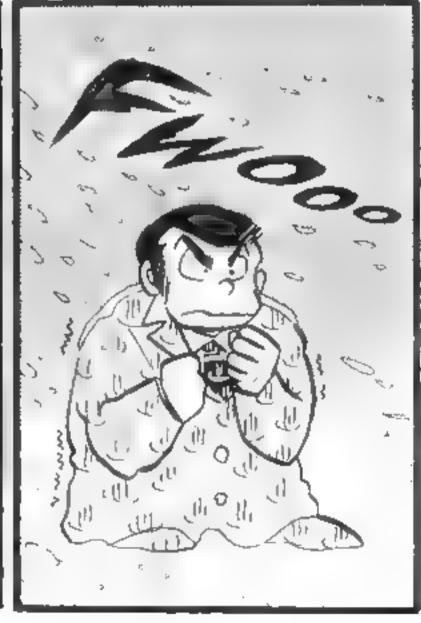




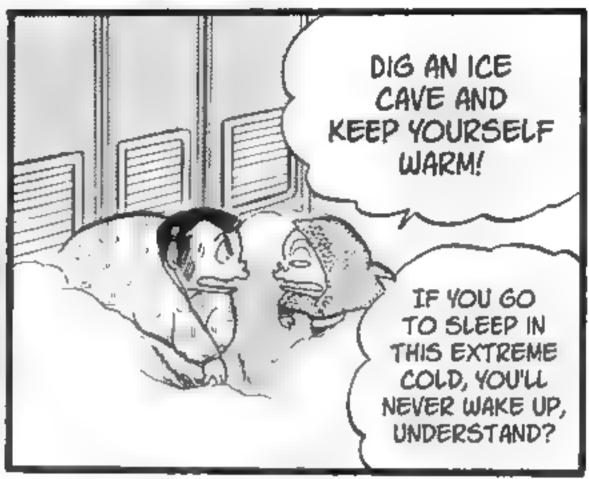


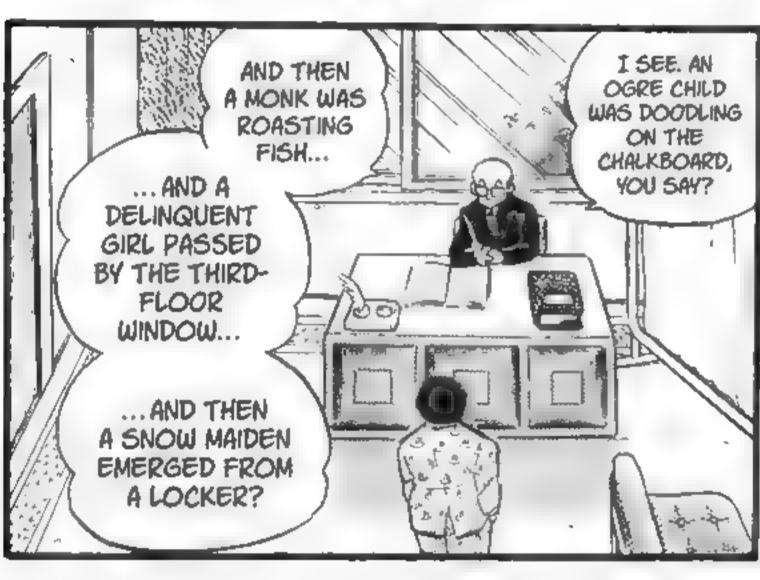


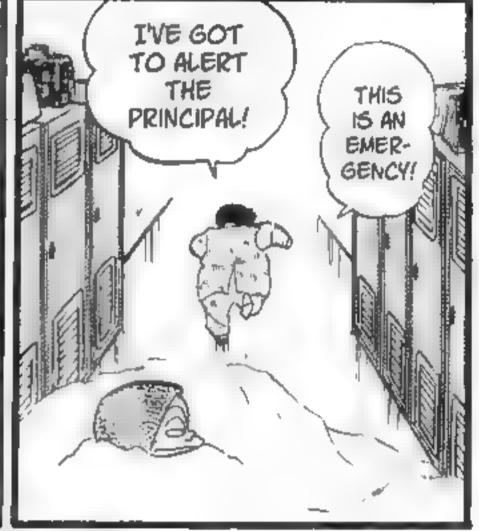




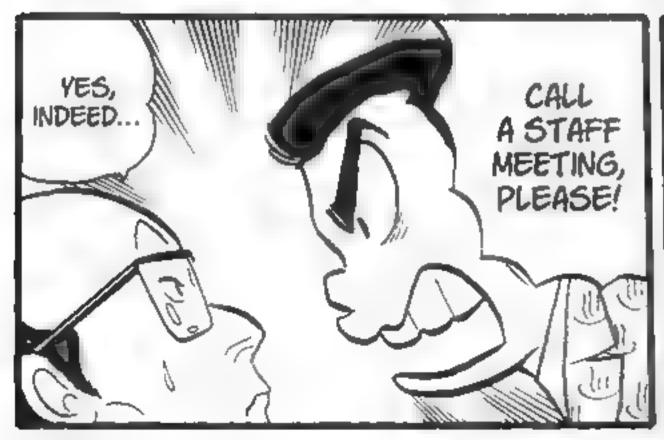


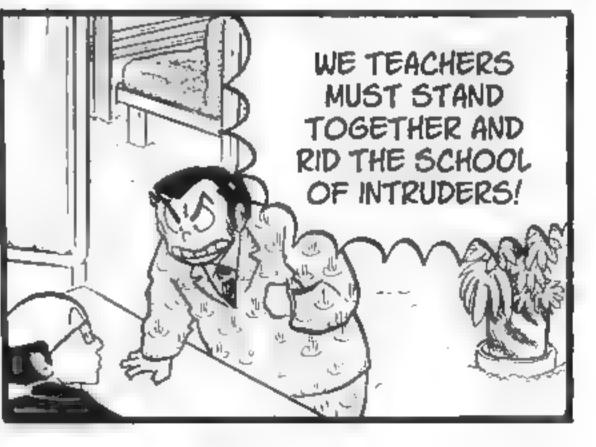








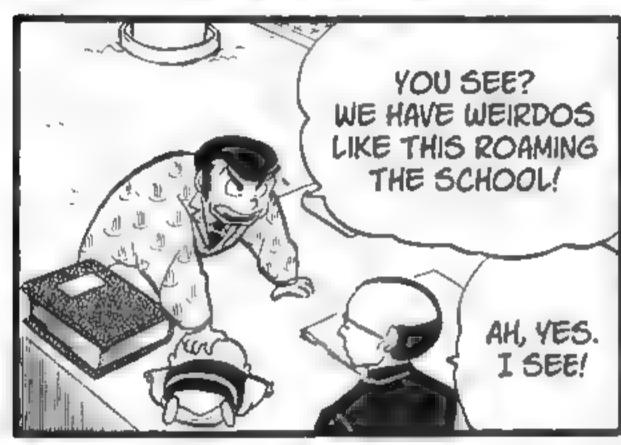








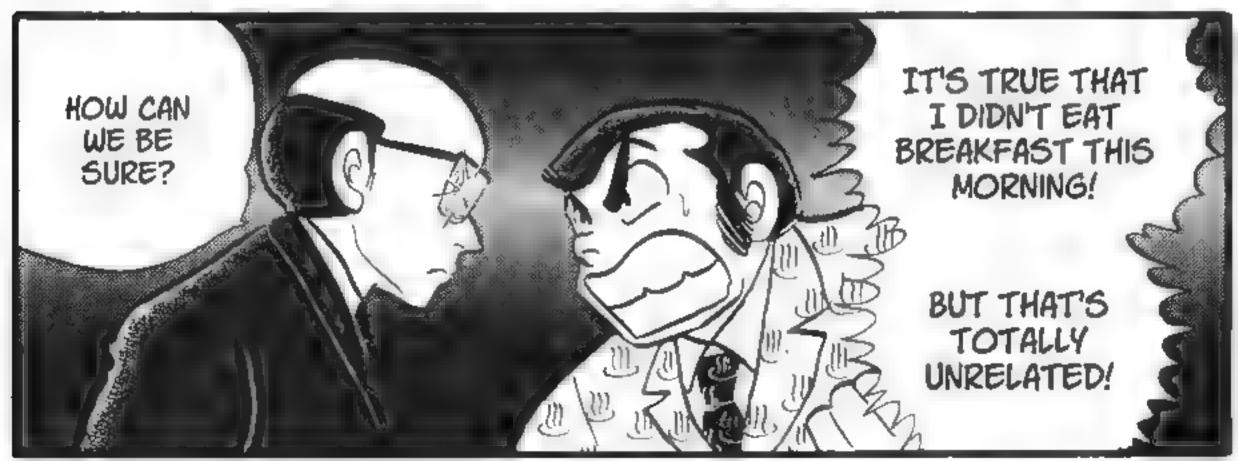




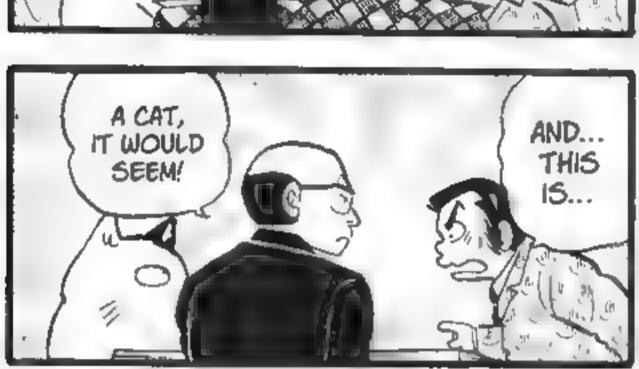






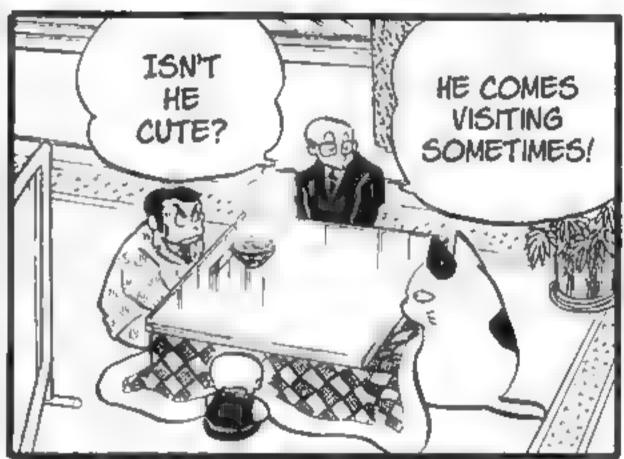








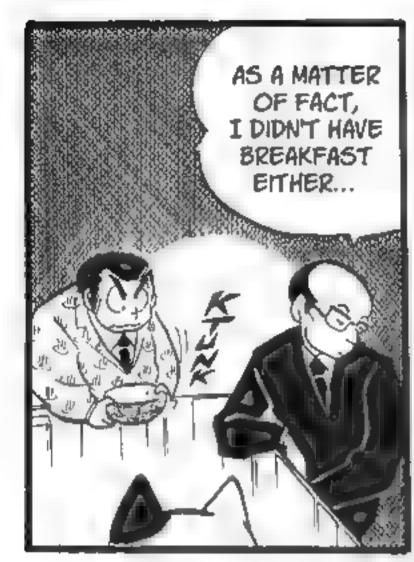


























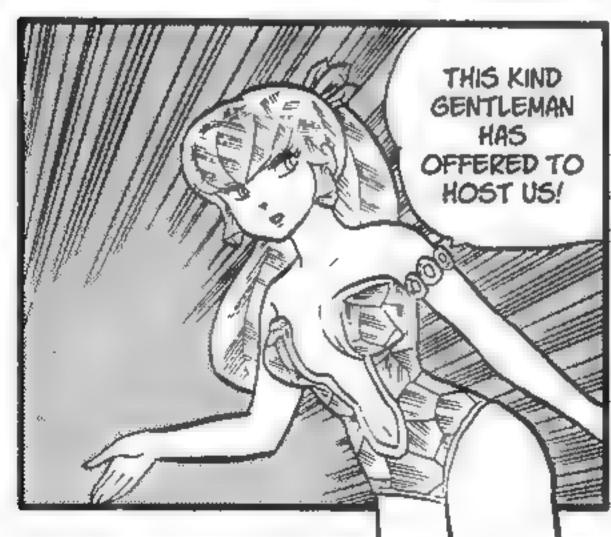


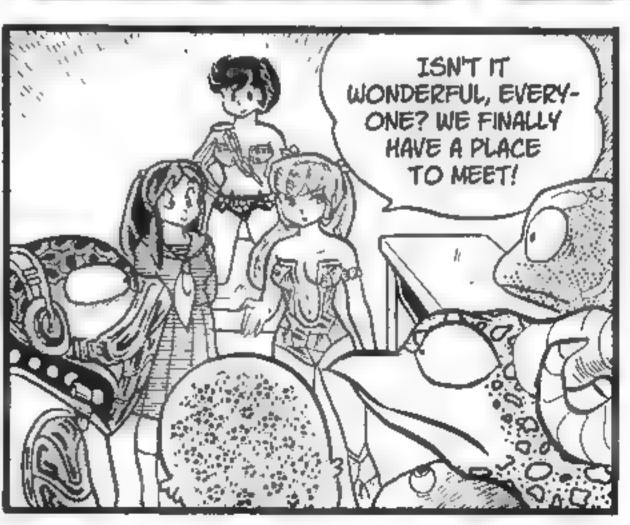




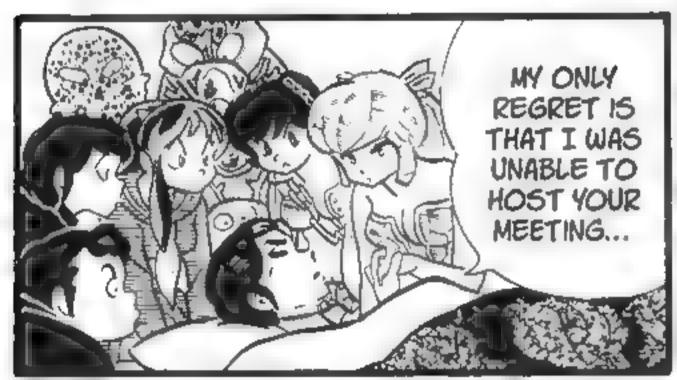














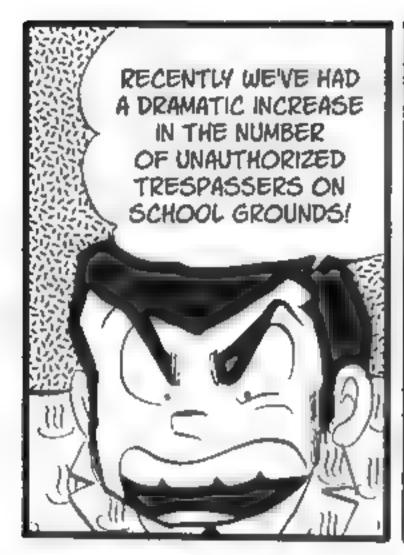






















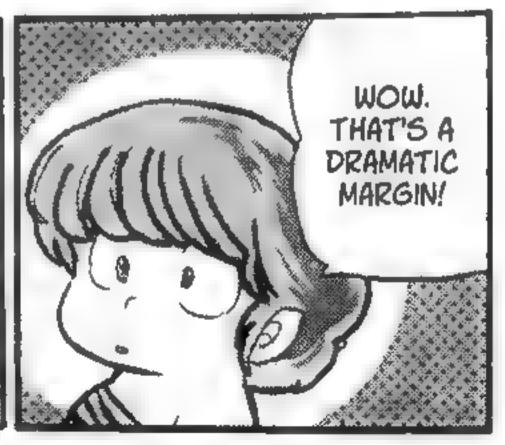


















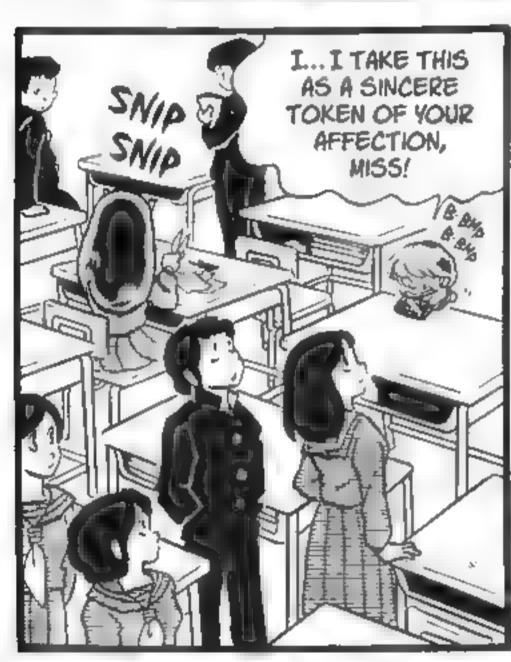
































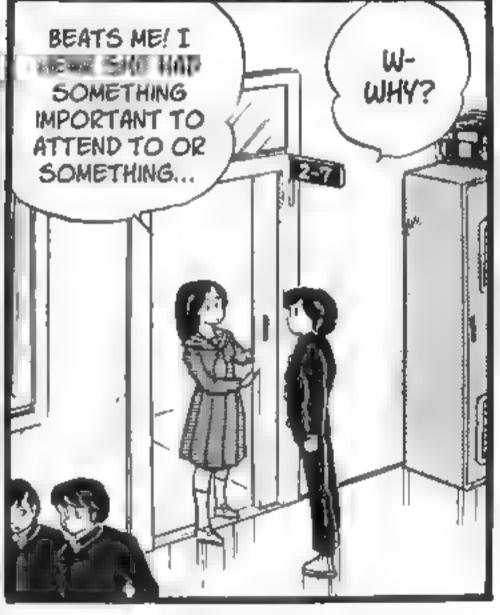




























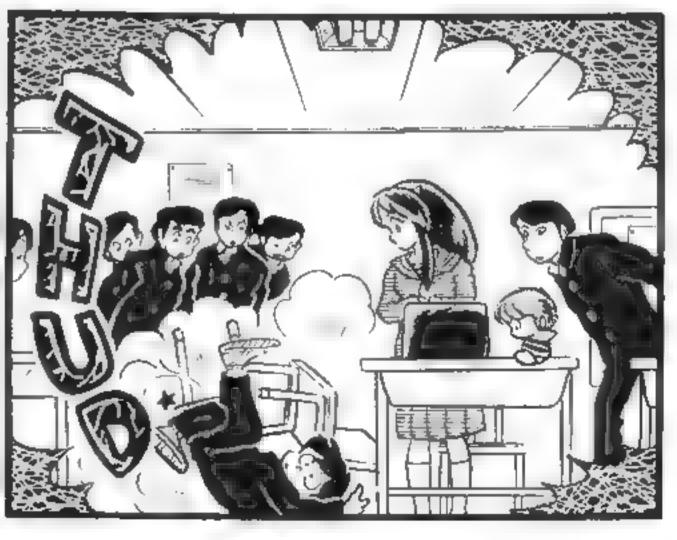


































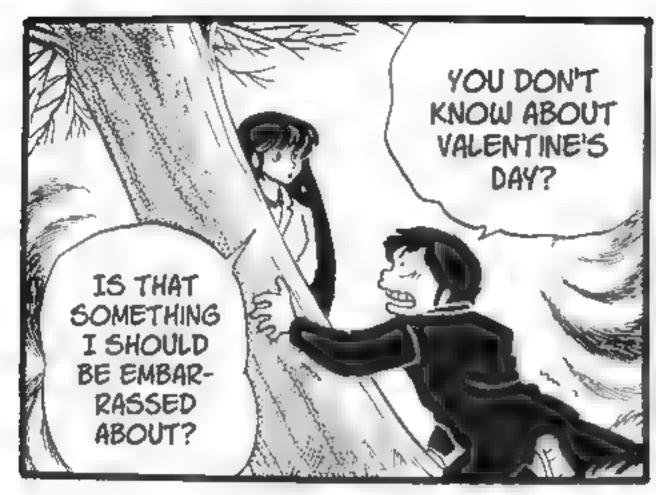










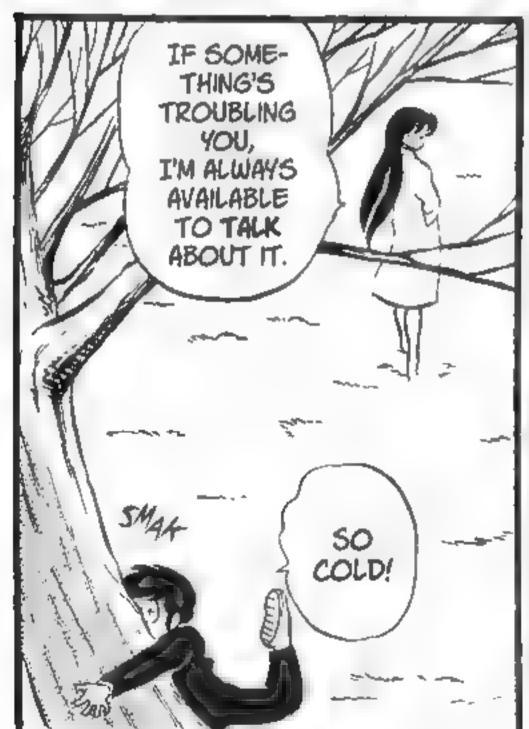






























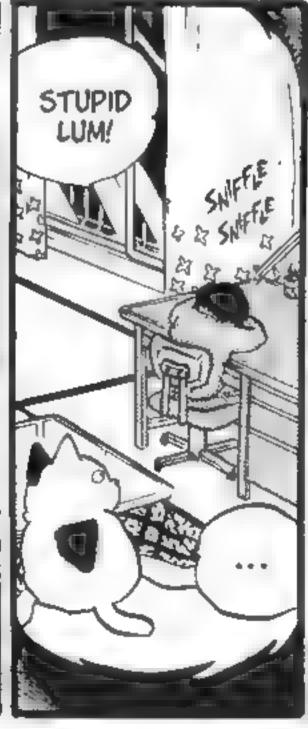




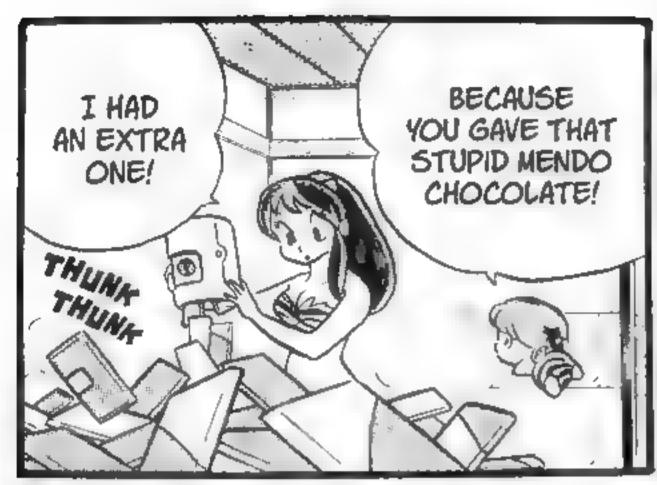




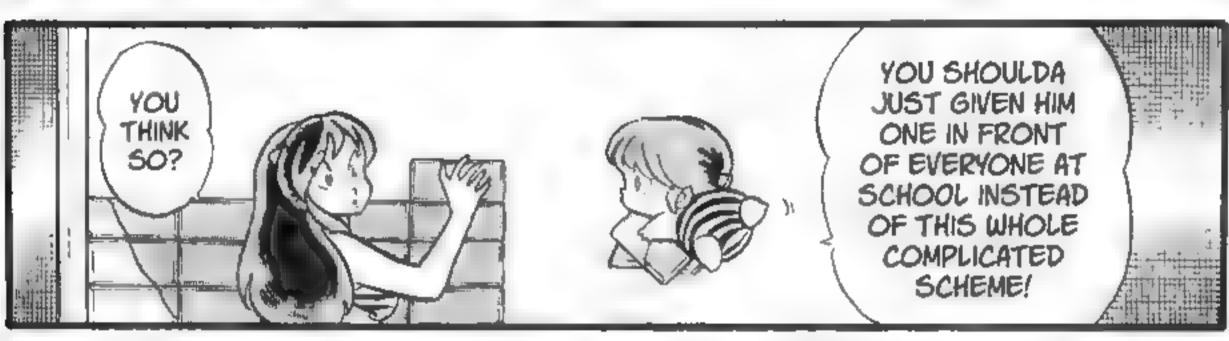
















## CHAPTER 18: DEADLY PERIL IN THE CLASSROOM





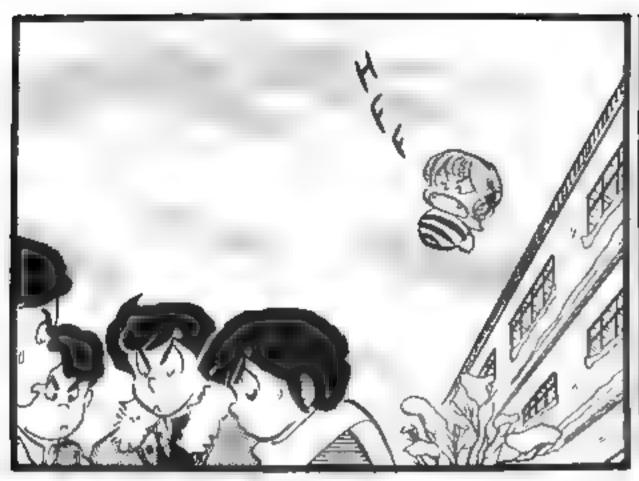




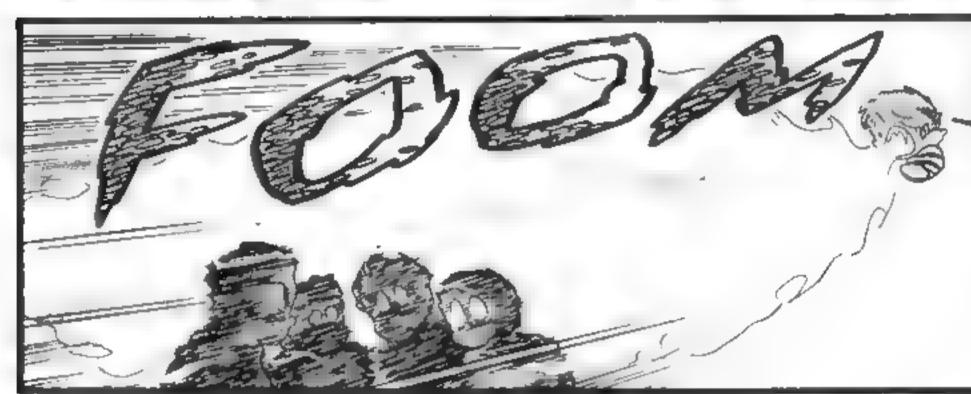










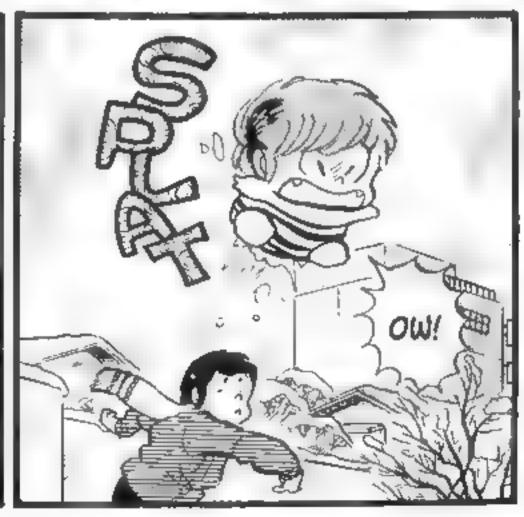


WHAT'S A MAKE-UP CLASS?!







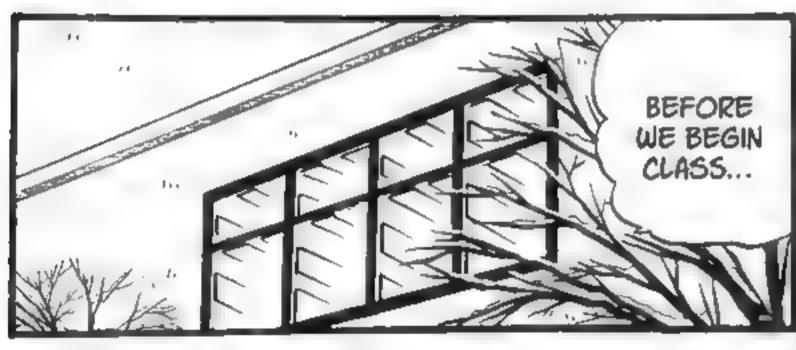








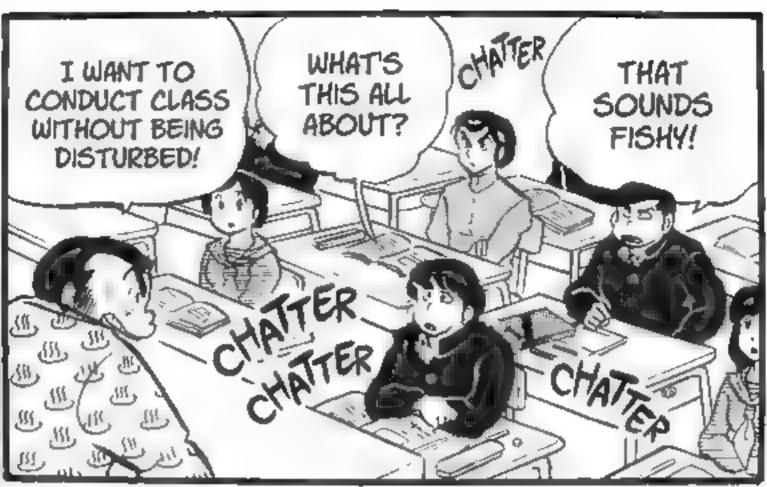






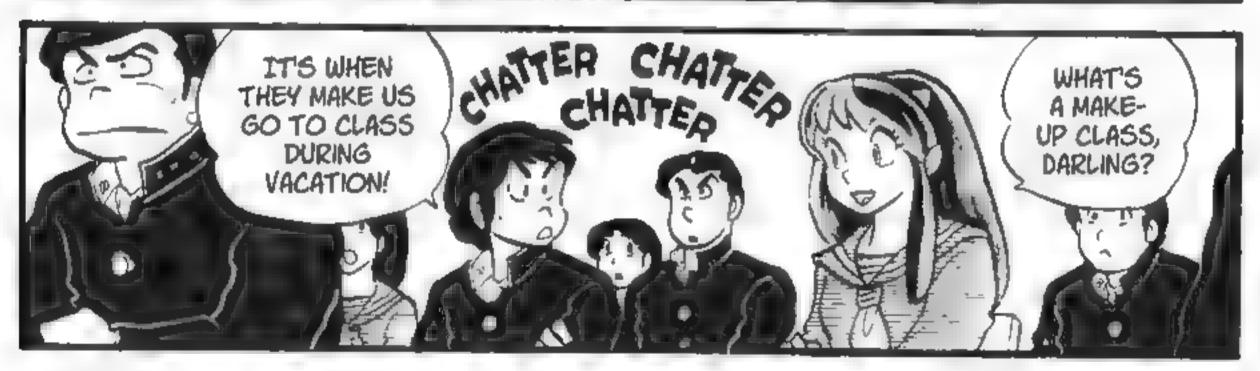








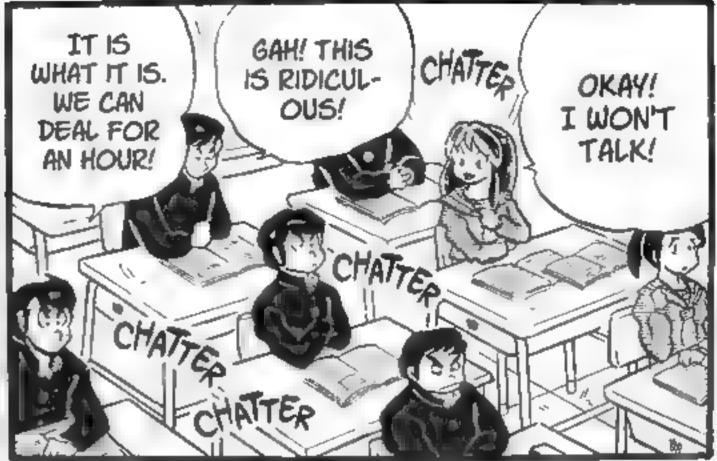




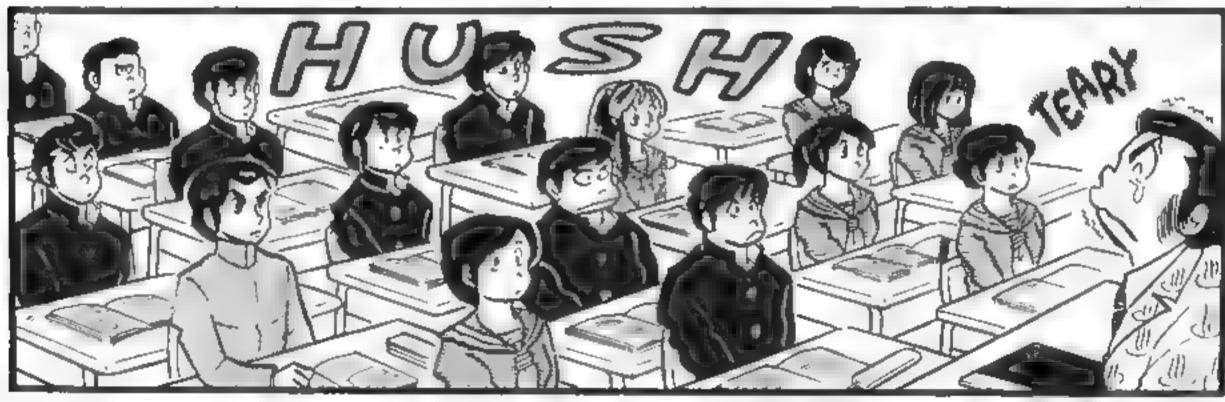


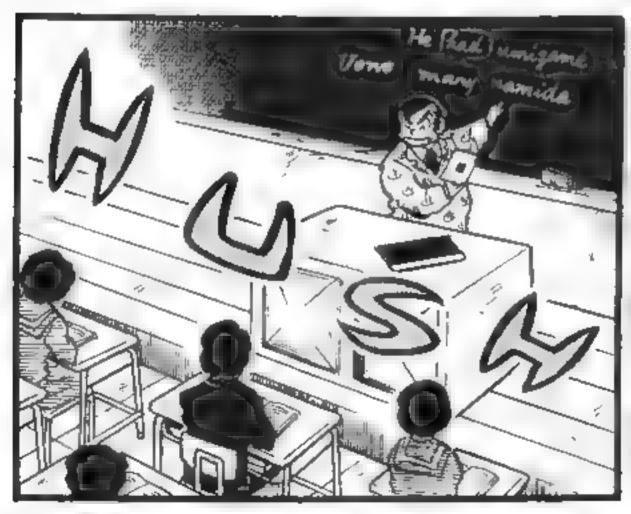


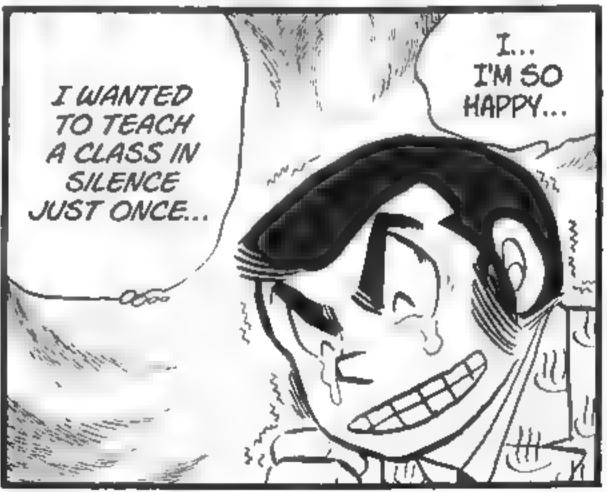






























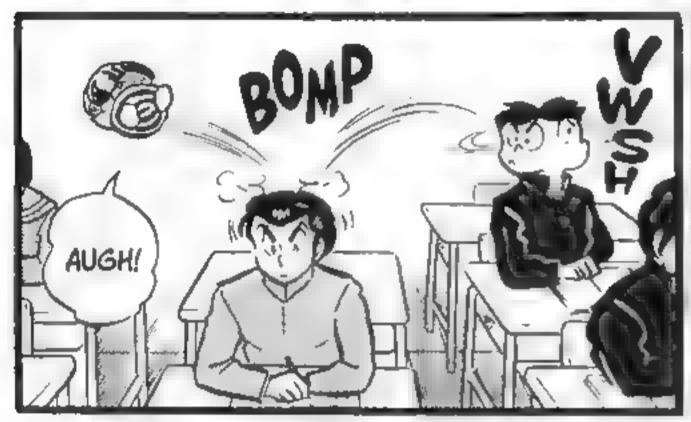














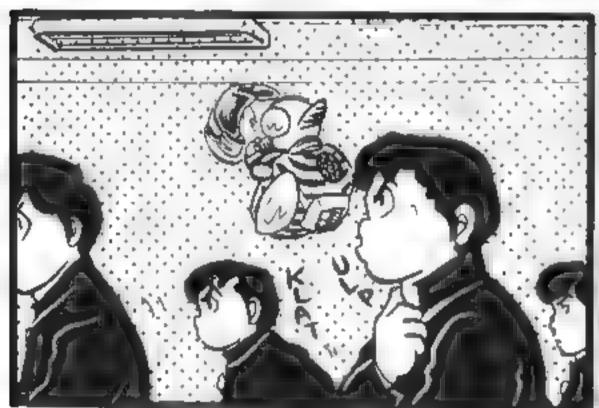




























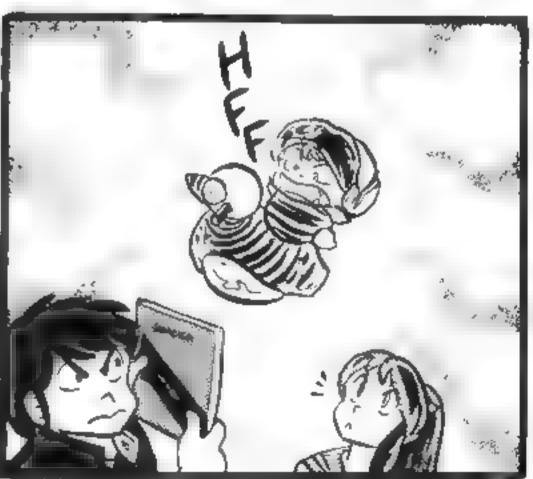






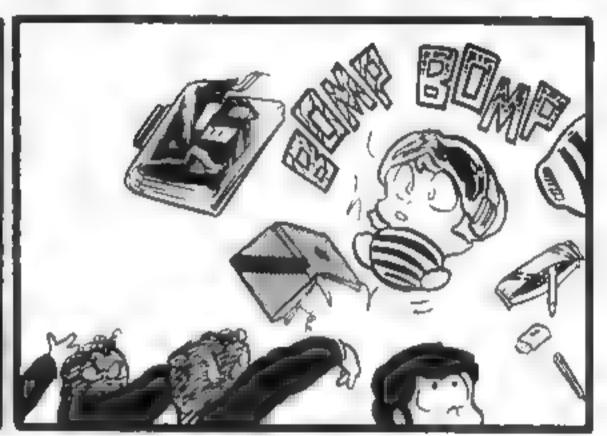
















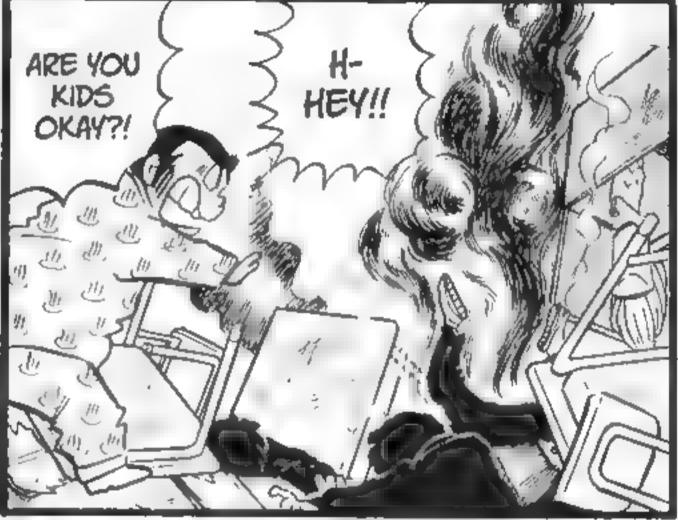
































## CHAPTER 19: MENDO SIBLINGS!

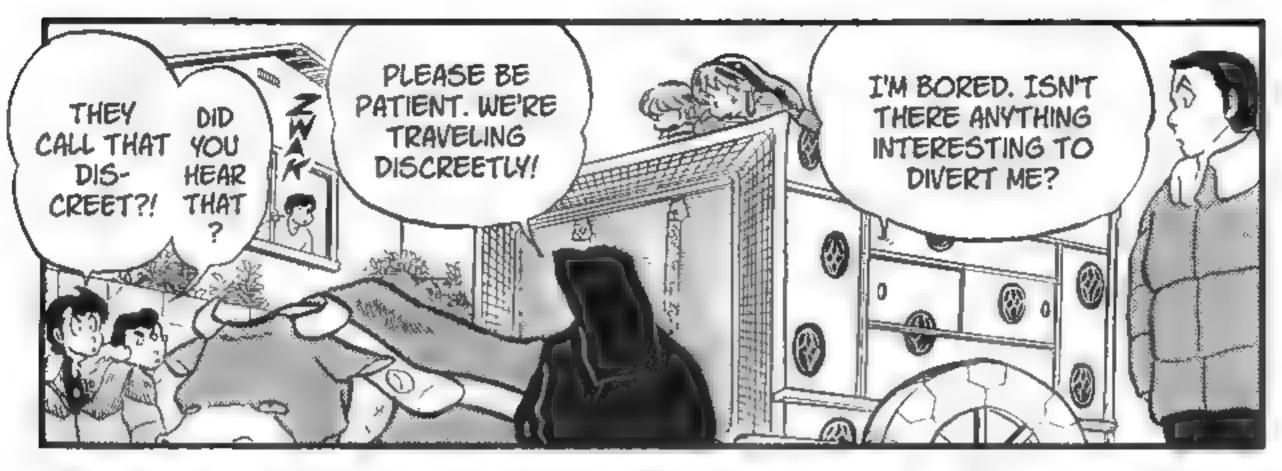


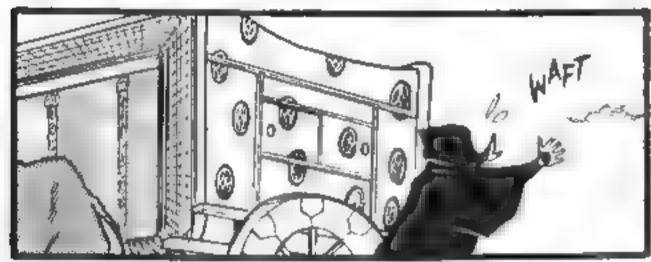




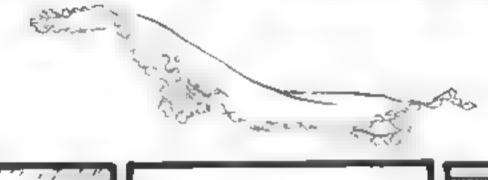






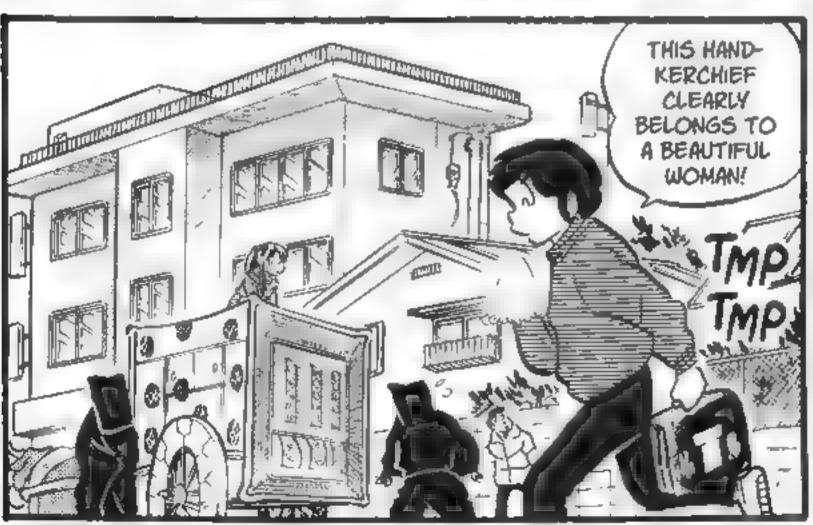




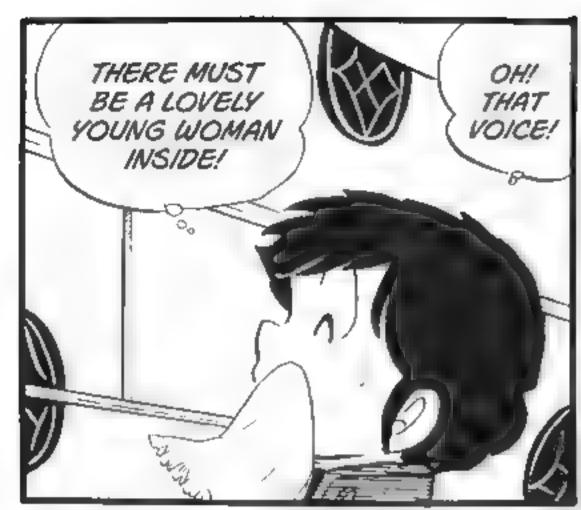








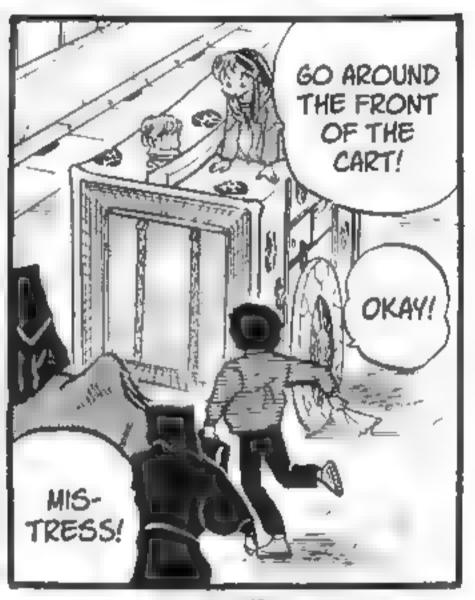




















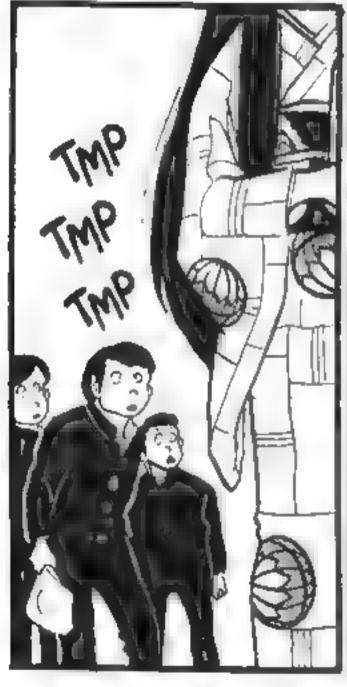


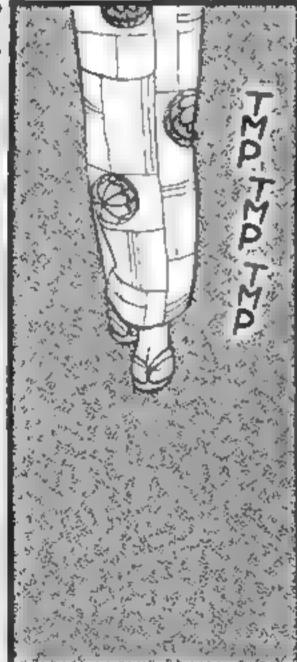


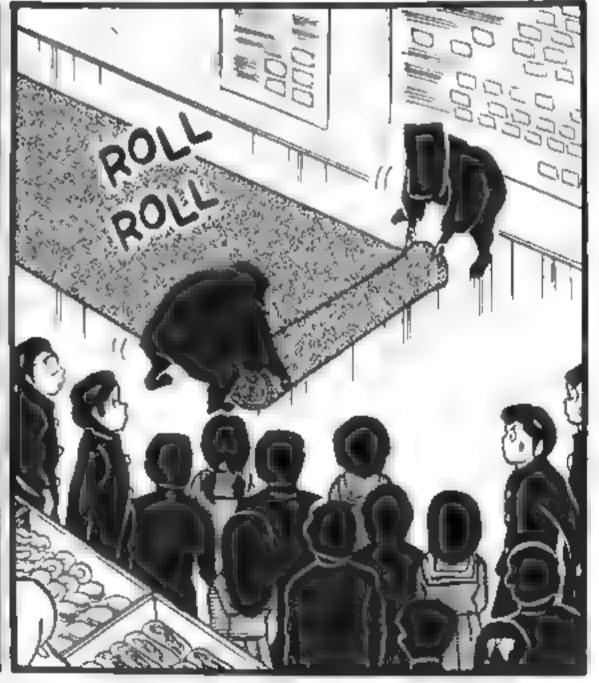














































































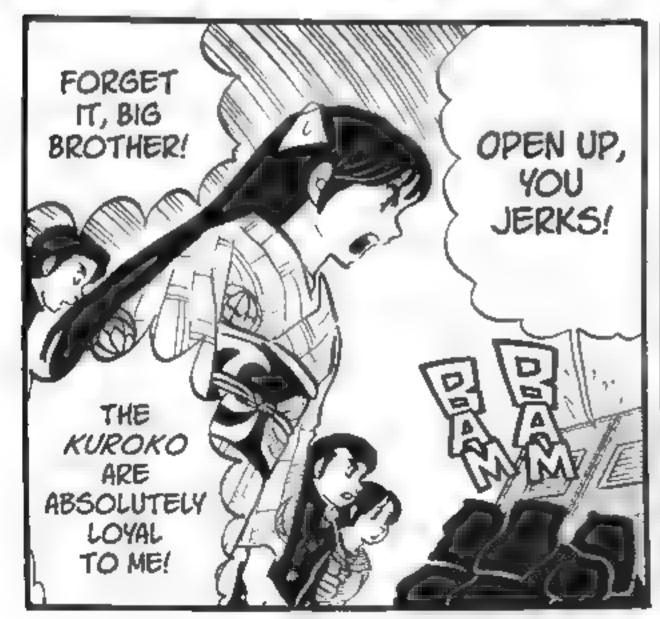






















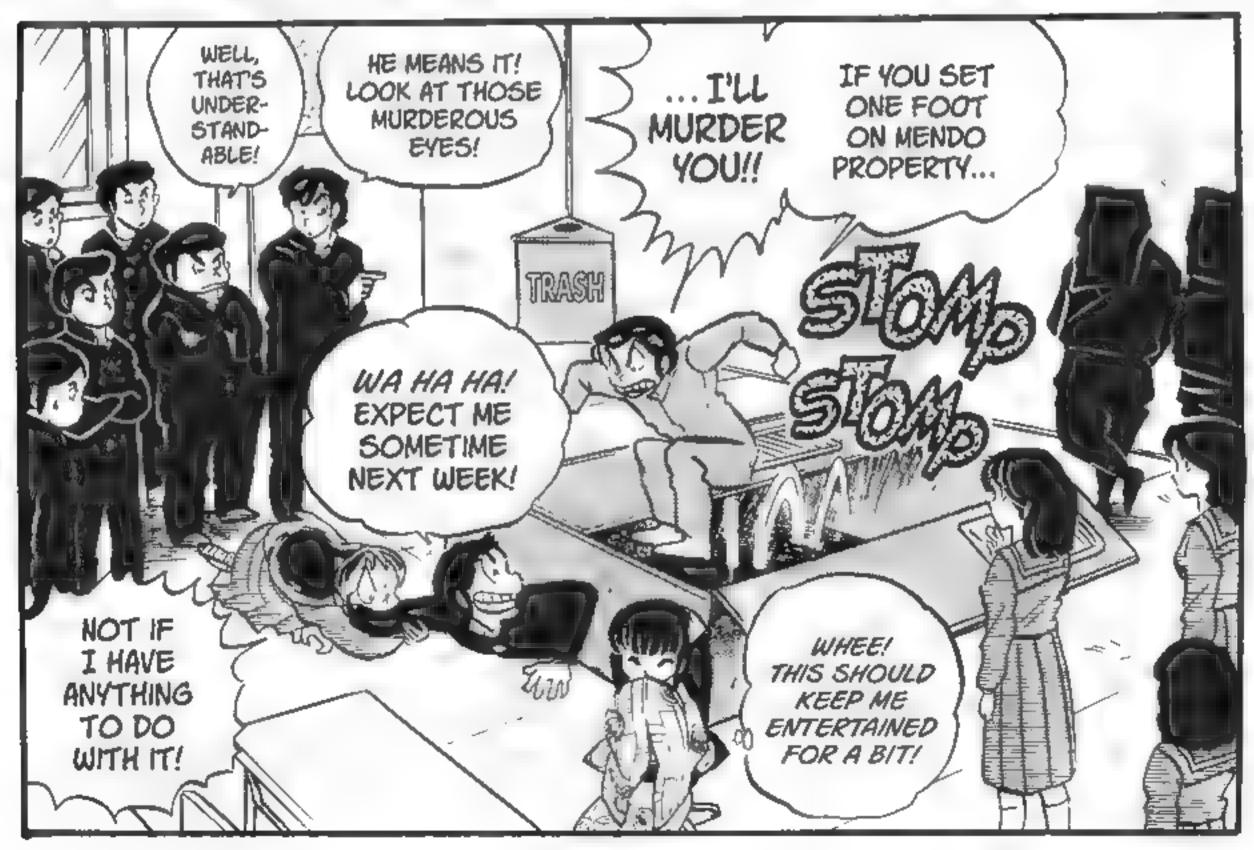












## CHAPIER 208 MENDO SIBUNGSI

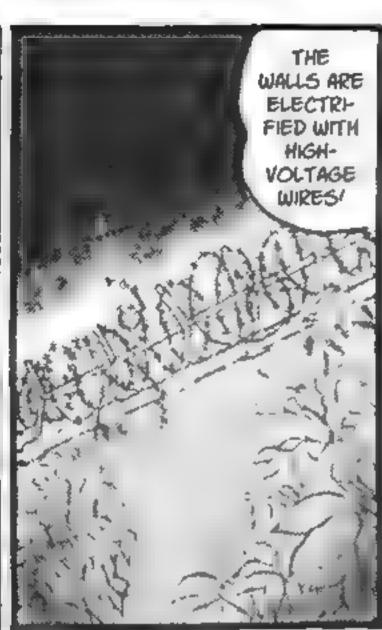


































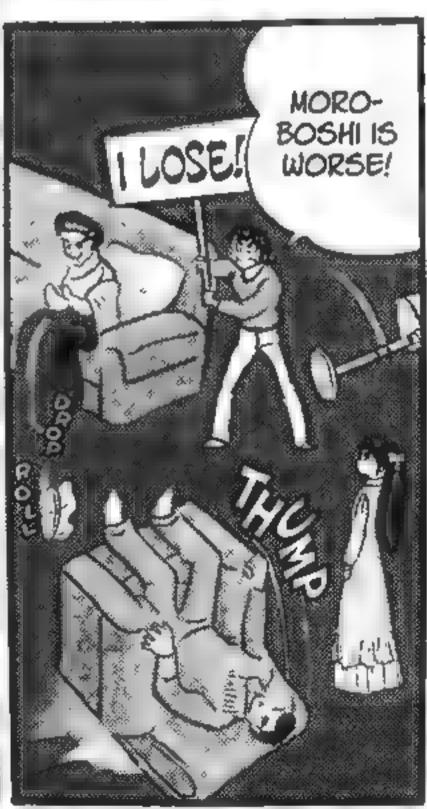


















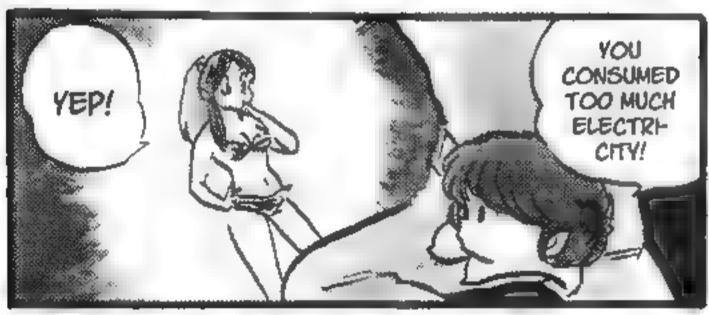


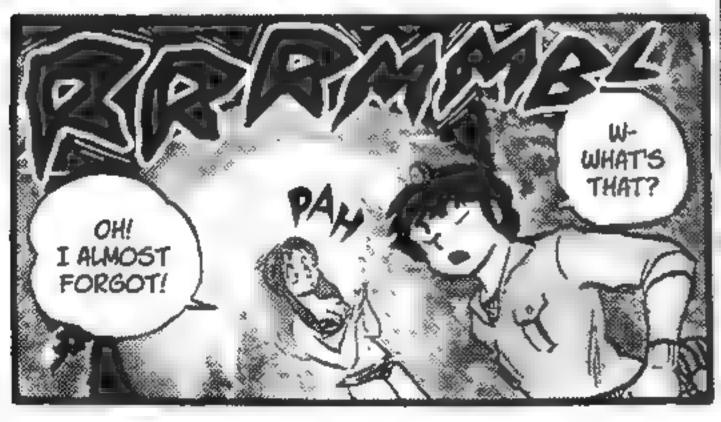














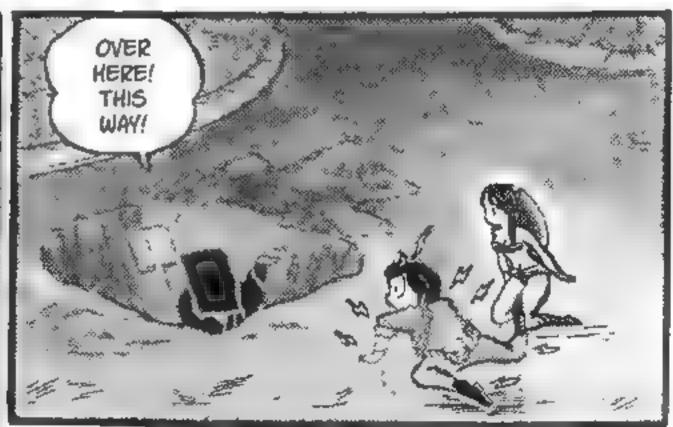


























































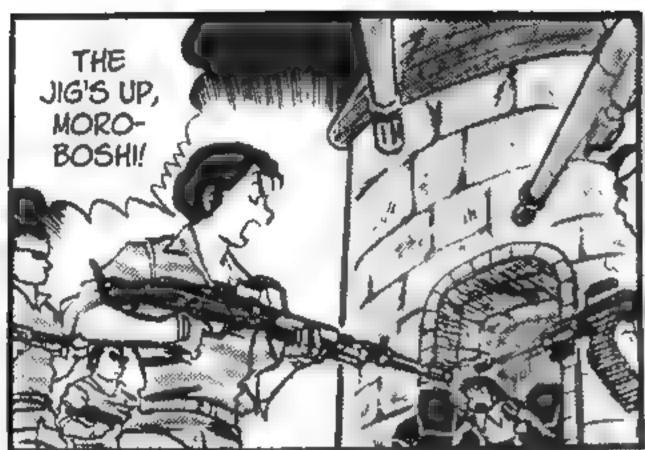




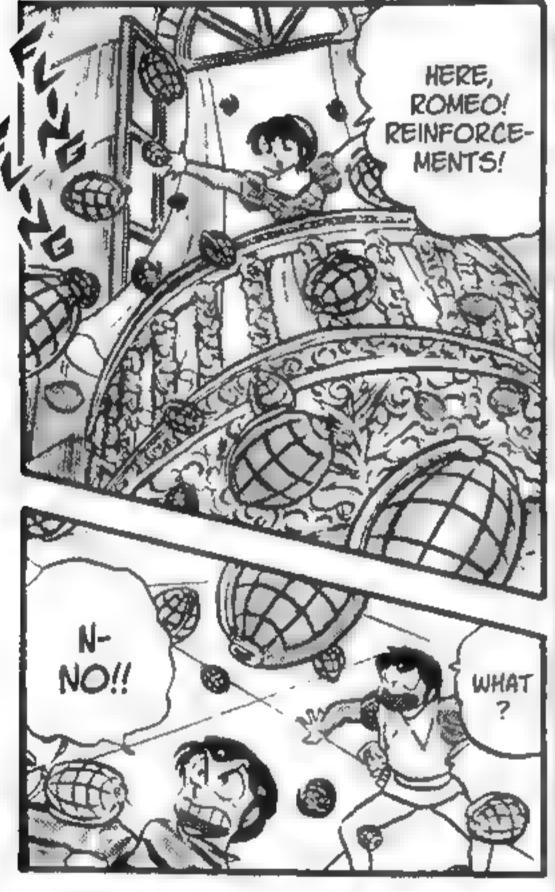
















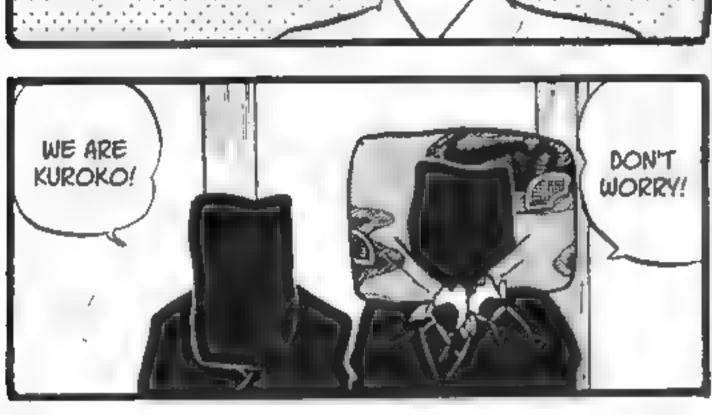




## CHAPTER 21: HELLO, SAILOR SUITS!



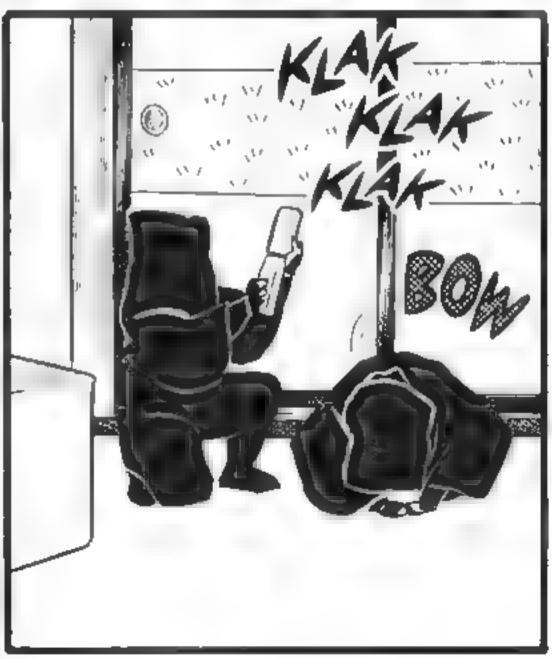




















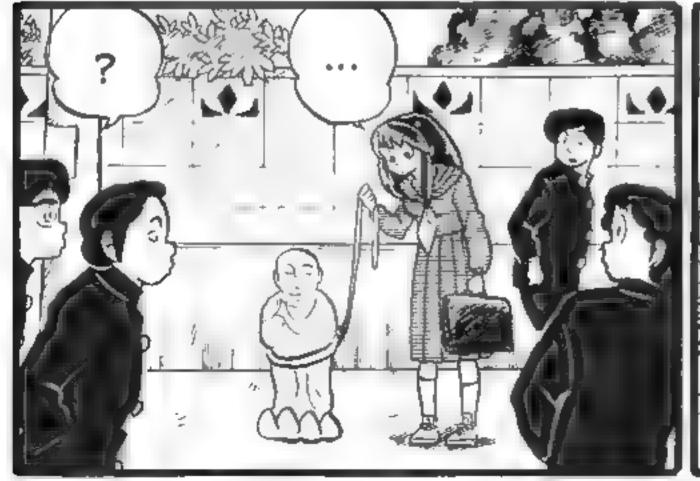




















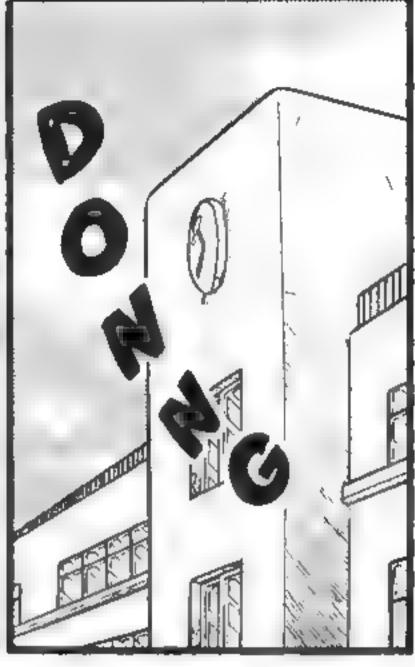
















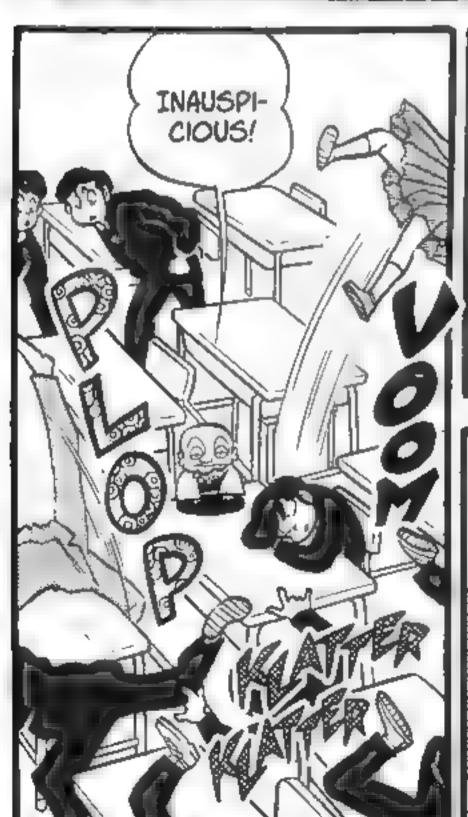










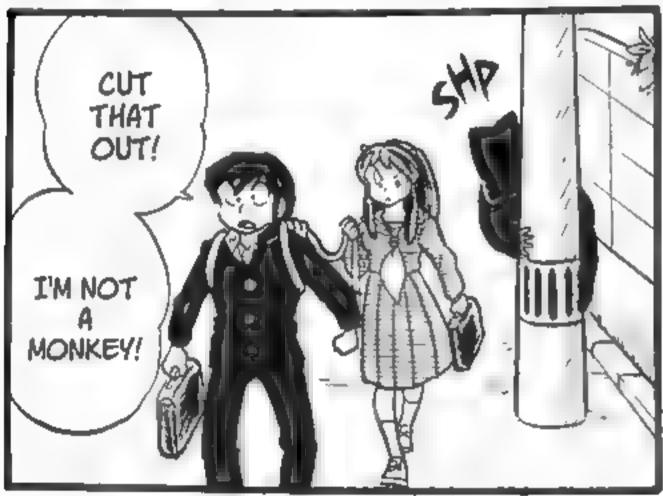
















THE





AND THE DAY AFTER THAT...



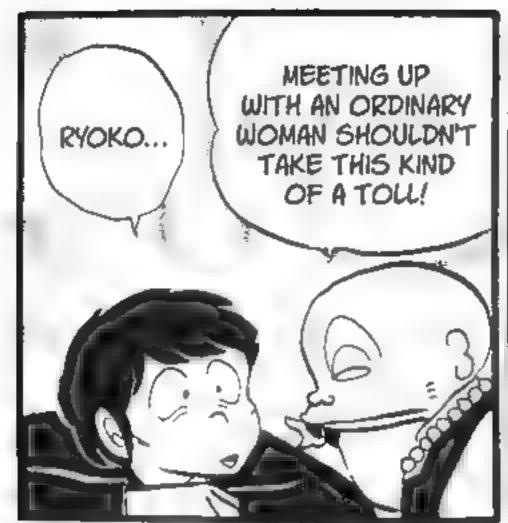






















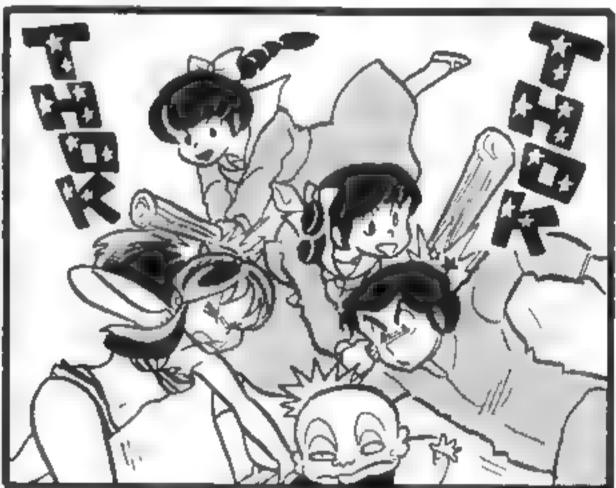
































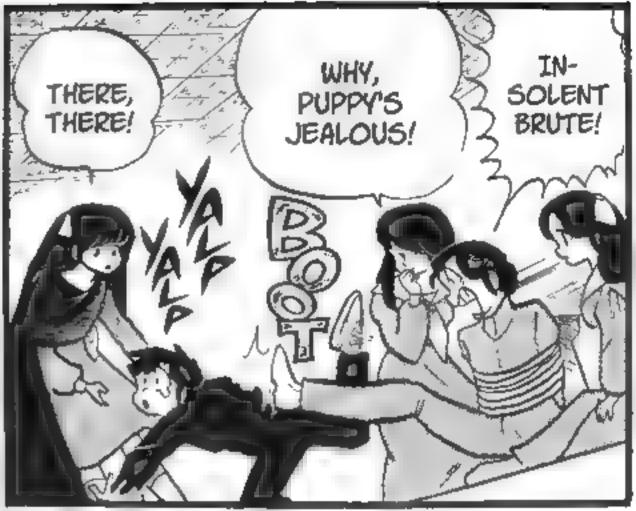




























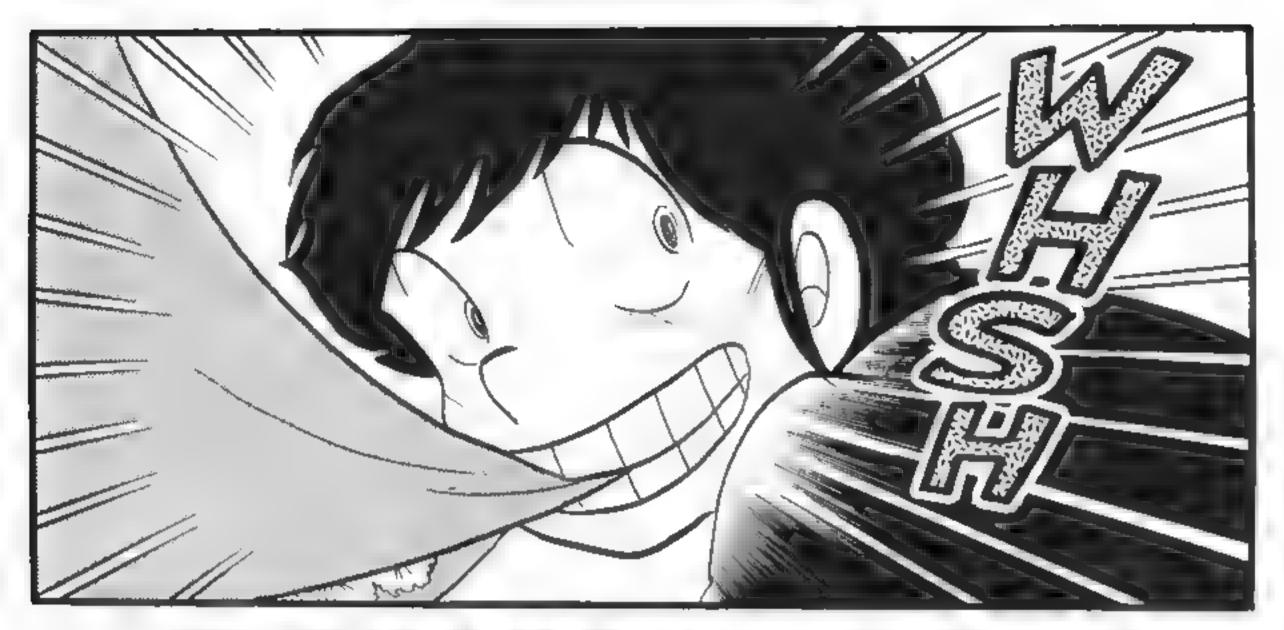


















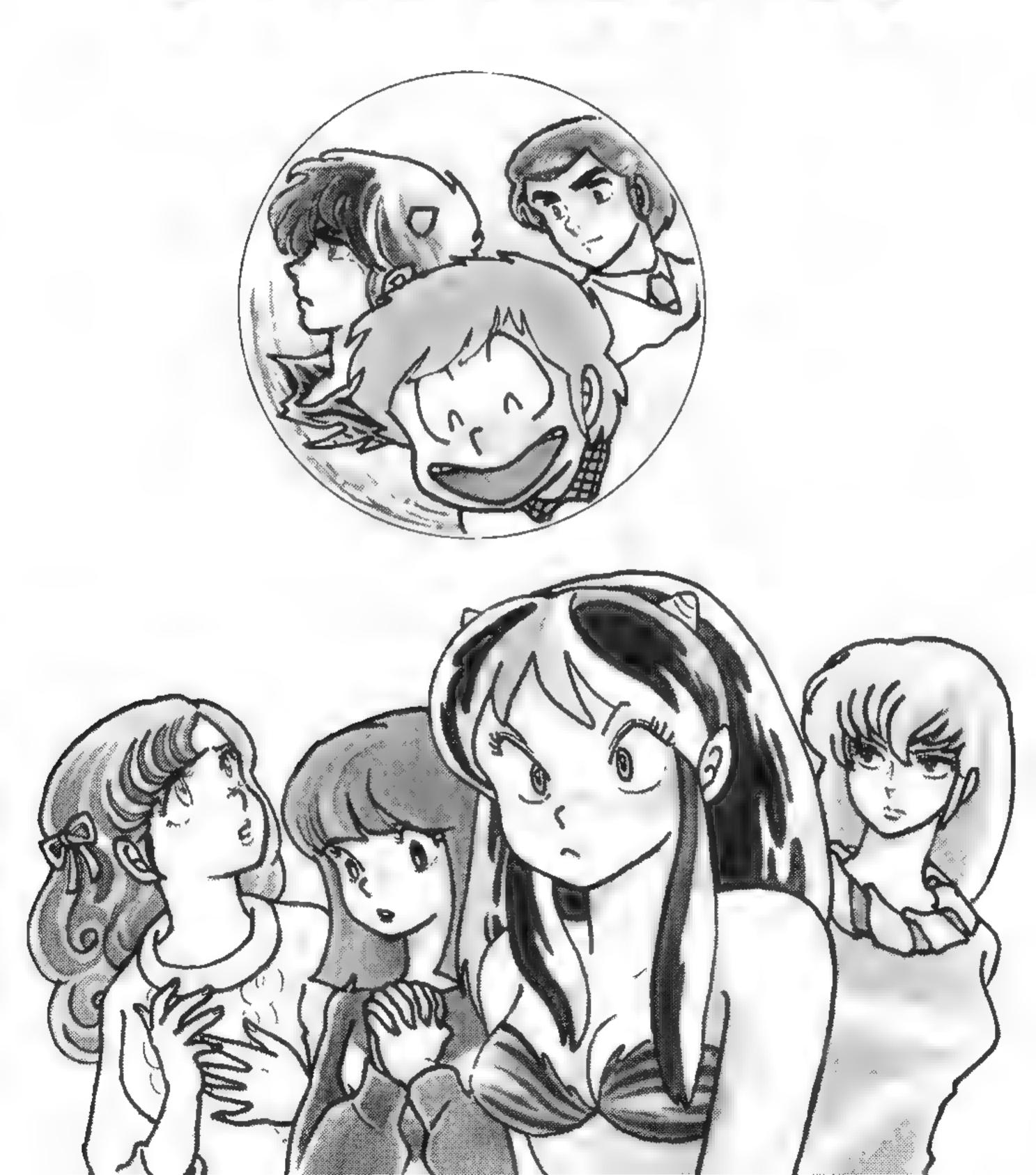








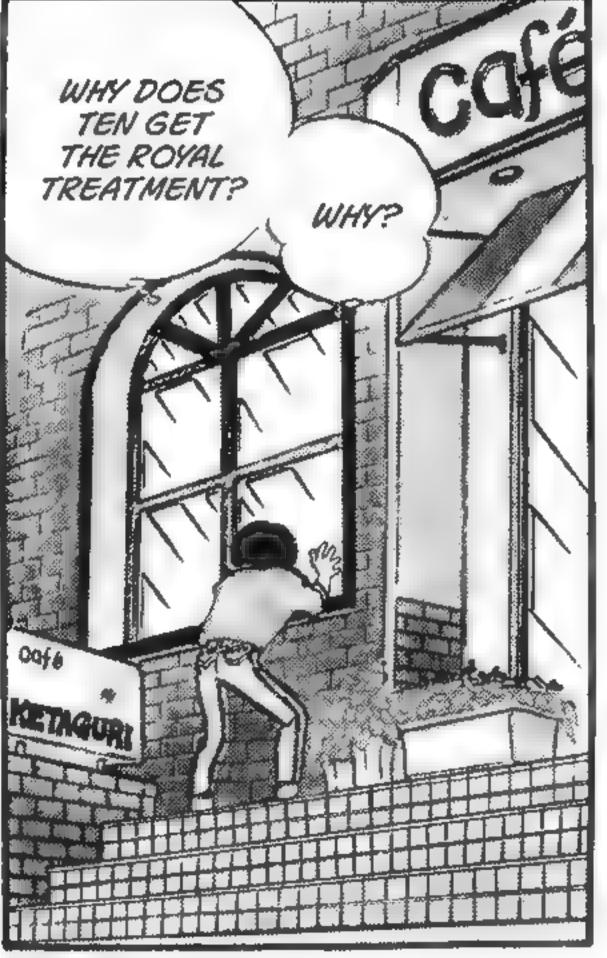
## CHAPTER 22: A GIFT FROM TEN



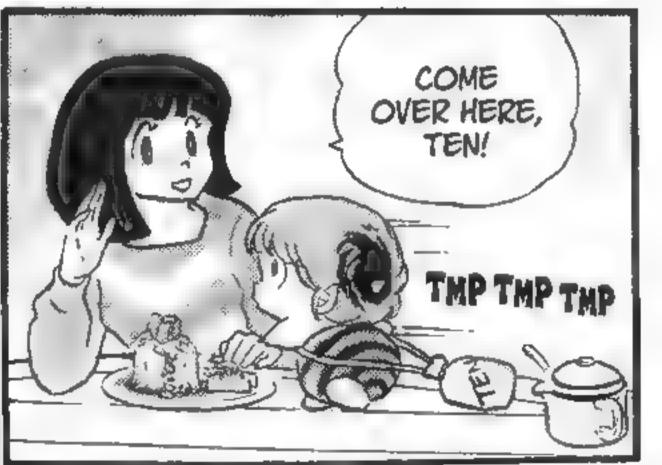


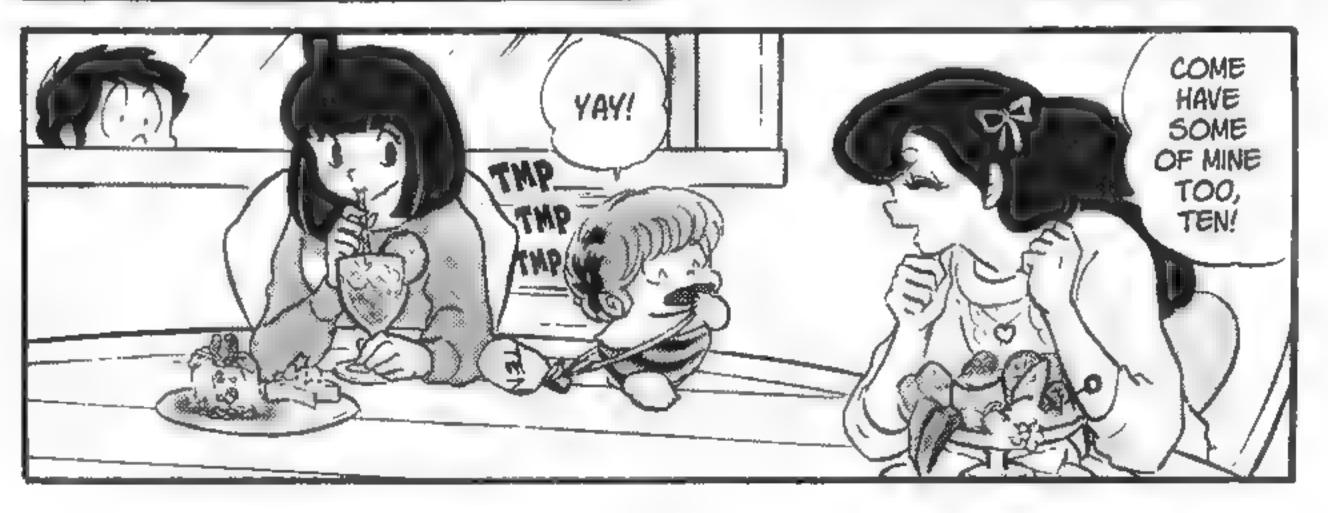
















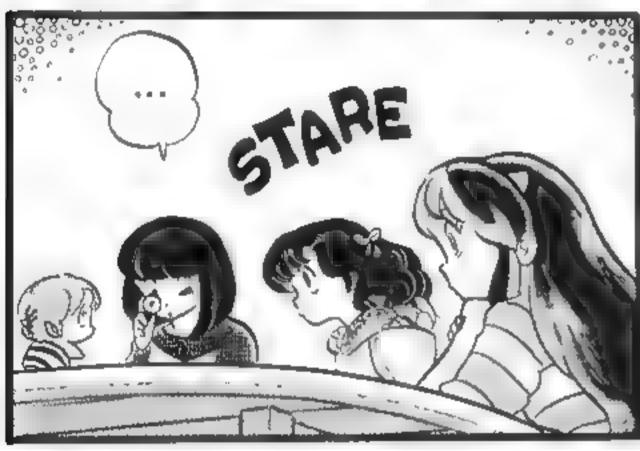






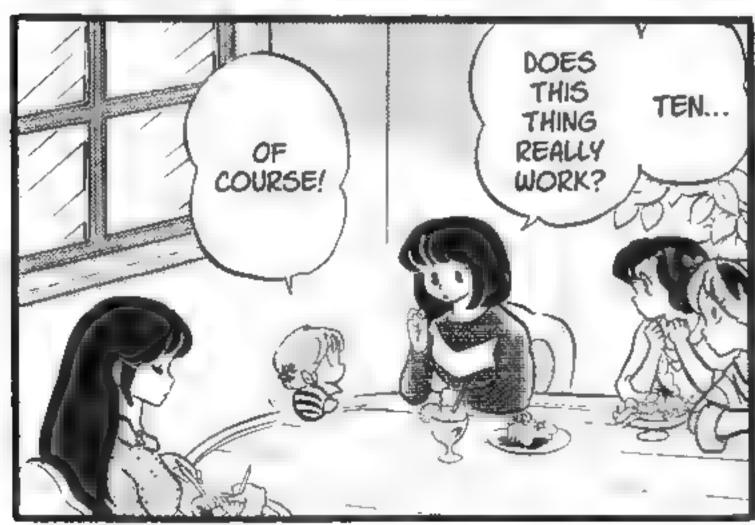






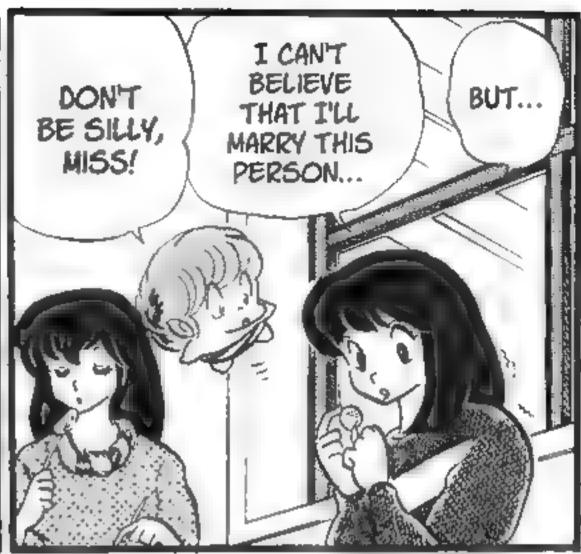






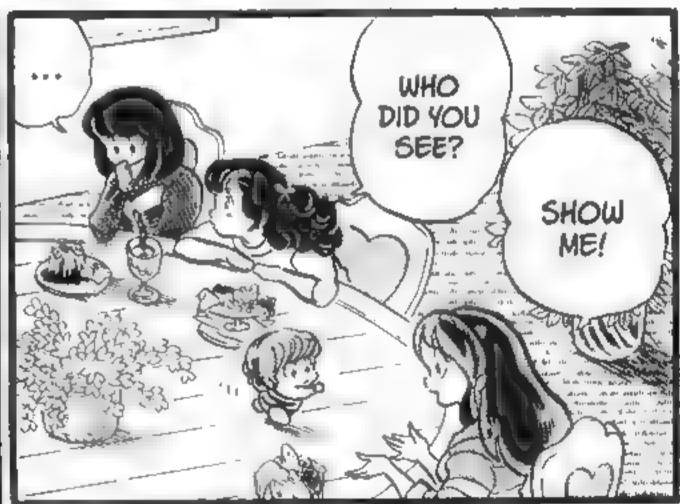




























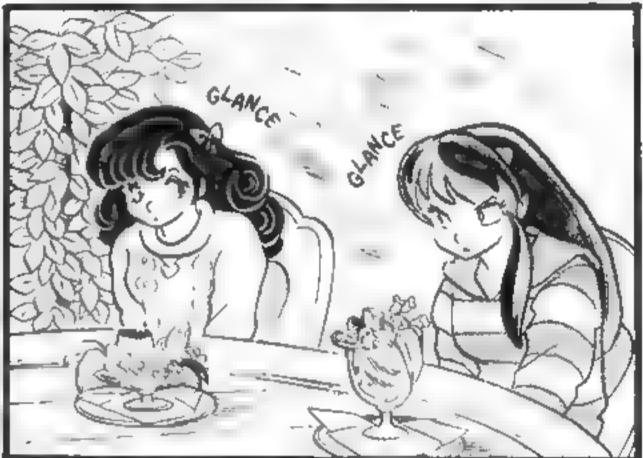








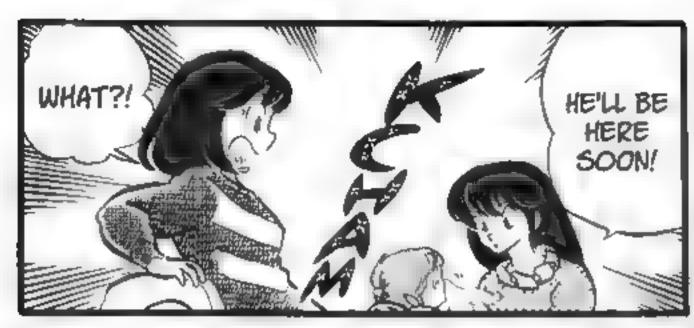
















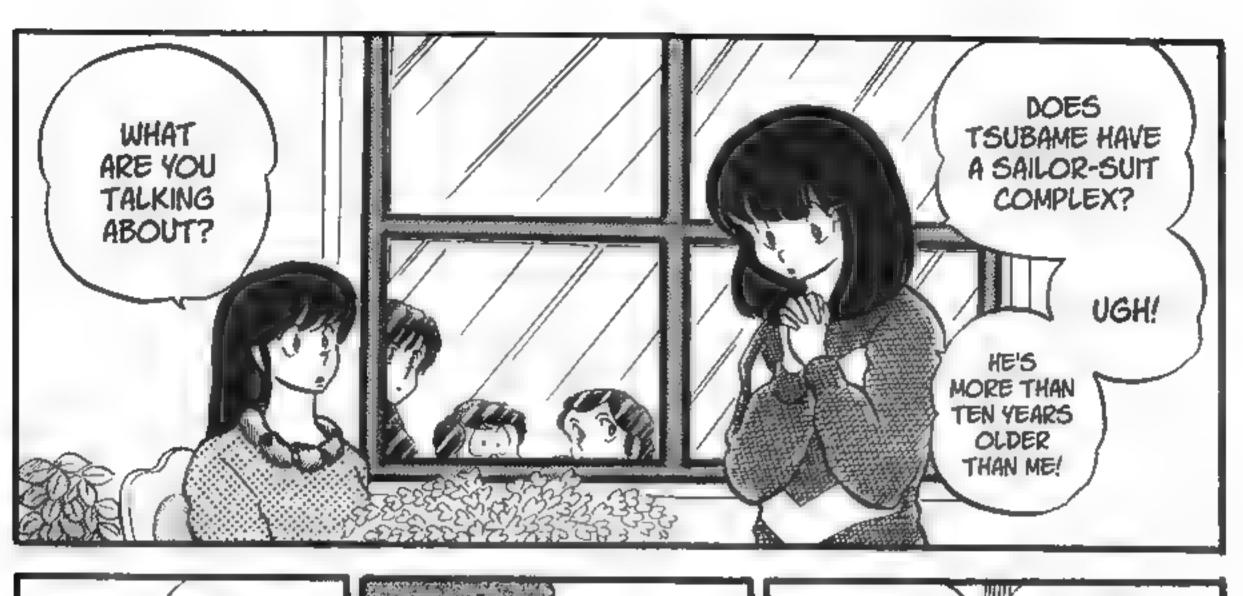




















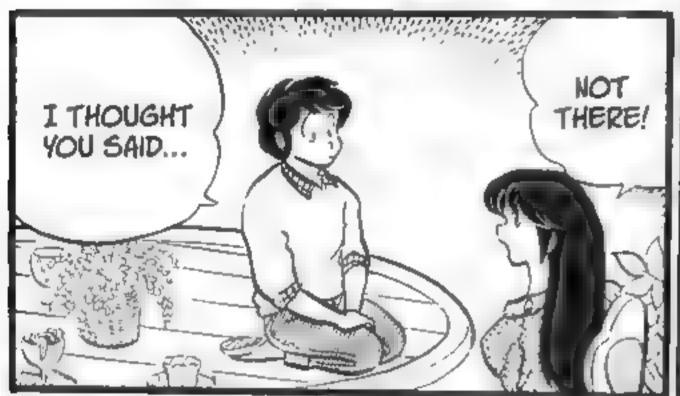














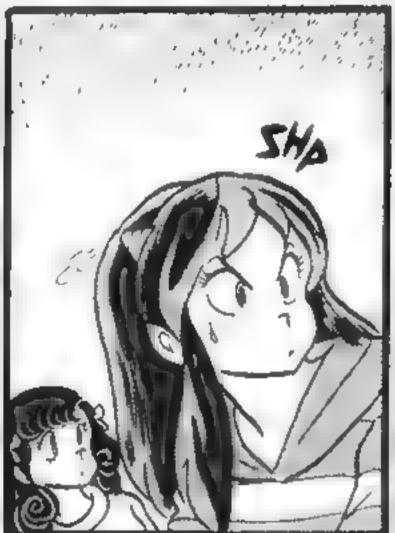




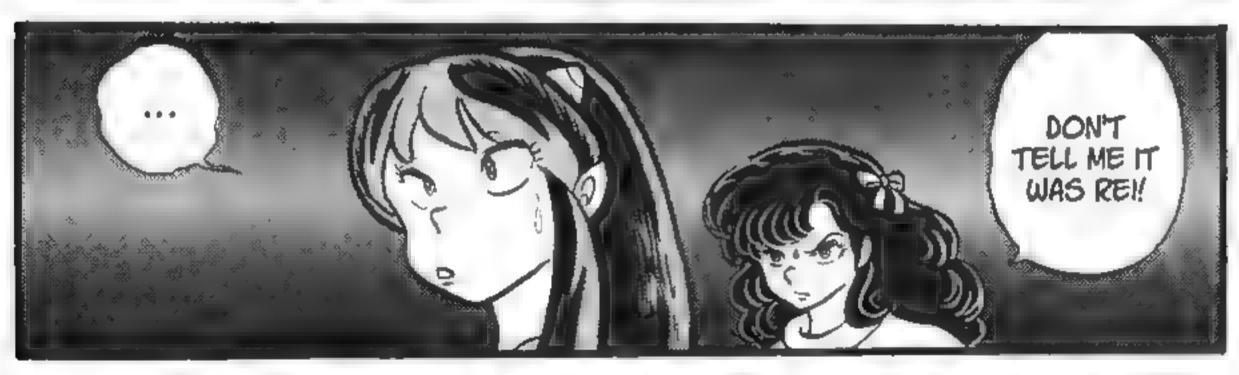










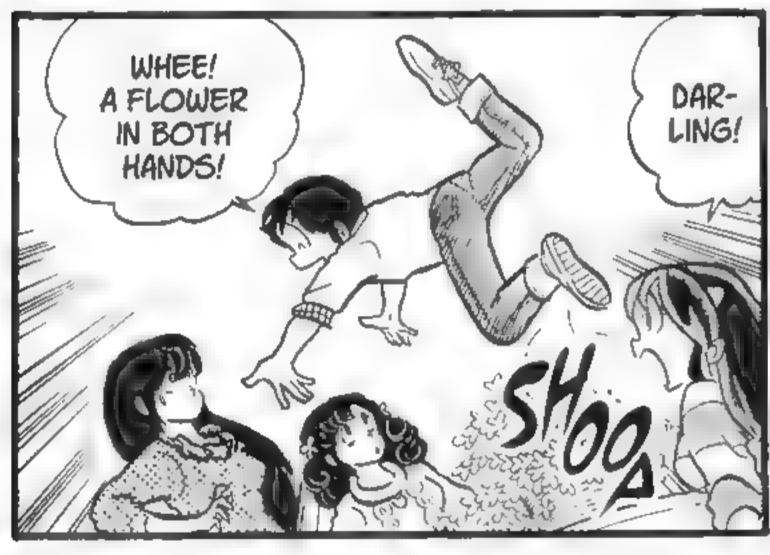






















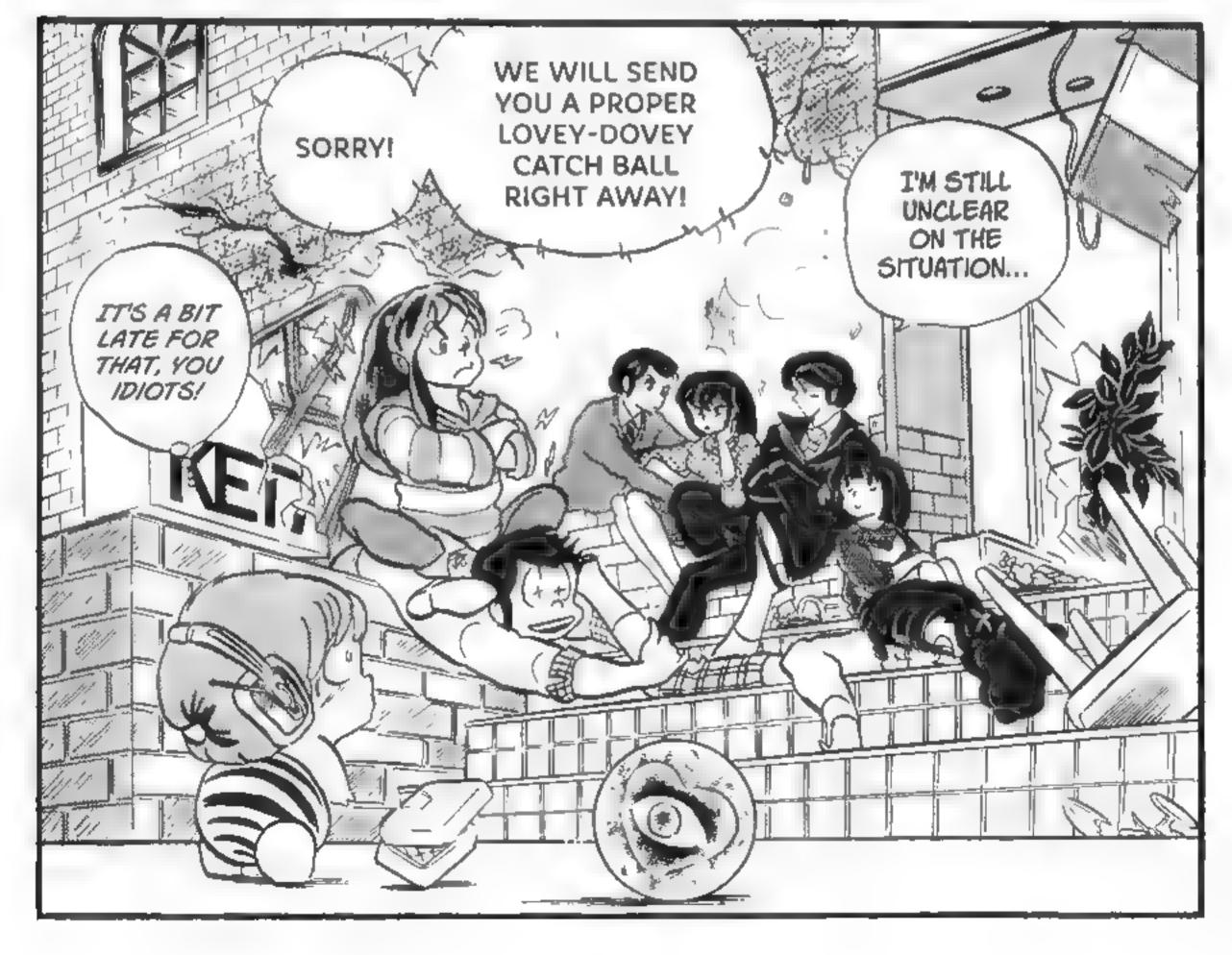












## URUSEI YATSURA \* DATA FILE 12

# The True Face of Shutaro Mendo

A superior intellect, handsome countenance and wealth... Shutaro Mendo seems to have it all! And yet...?! For some reason, he seems destined to vie with Ataru at Ataru's level!

The heir to a giant multinational conglomerate, Shutaro Mendo was born with a silver spoon in his mouth...and yet he goes toe-to-toe with world-class troublemaker Ataru, whose every move is driven by sheer libido! We are all familiar with the chaos they wreak with their harebrained shenanigans.





▲ Mendo has a great deal of prestige for his tender years. But does he have the character to uphold the Mendo dynasty? (volume 12, chapter 20 "A Stormy Date, Part 3")

Mendo and Ataru might both be idiots, but given that Ataru is governed solely by his haphazard instincts and proclivities, while Mendo has lofty moral standards (or so he believes), the two could be characterized as polar opposites.

Perhaps Mendo's purpose for transferring to Tomobiki High (as opposed to the sort of elite academy that normally caters to the heirs of large enterprises) pertains to acquiring practical experience befitting an executive amongst the proletarian masses that will one day serve as his employees. Indeed, such a choice seems quite fitting. On the other hand...



The fact that Mendo is an idiot of the same level as Ataru was scientifically proven soon after his arrival at Tomobiki High by Lum's horoscope device (volume 2, chapter 6 "Zodiac Cycles"). But upon further scrutiny, Mendo's idiocy is always tempered with a certain degree of common decency.

For example, when Lum comes to school for the first time disguised as a normal high school girl, Ataru exclaims, "A woman that beautiful is a rare thing!" to which Mendo scolds, "What about Lum? You wouldn't betray her, would you?" (volume 2, chapter 8 "Love and Suffering"). And when Ataru amuses himself by flipping up girls' skirts, Mendo scolds angrily, "You're too old to be pulling that kind of stunt!" (volume 2, chapter 17 "Since Your Parting")

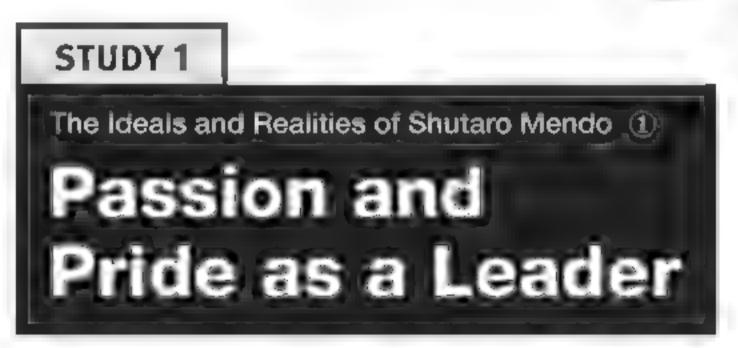
Moreover, while there is no denying Mendo's womanizing tendencies, when urged to kiss ("Go on, don't hold back! Smoochie, smoochie!") the sleeping Kurama—who has shut herself back in her capsule in the hopes of being awakened by a man other than Ataru—Mendo balks, protesting, "Wait a minute! Not with all these people watching!!" (volume 7, chapter 12 "Kurama Again").



■ Mendo is fundamentally rational and responsible, though
the is soon betrayed by Ataru (volume 12, chapter 8 "The
Obstacle Swim Meet, Part 1")

► A true anstocrat... Lines like this just roll off his tongue! (volume 12, chapter 11 "The Prosperity of the Hamachaya")





When Mendo transfers to Tomobiki High, his grandfather predicts, "You will be a model student at your new school!" Mendo responds with conviction, "I'll give it my all!" Sure enough, quite soon after transferring, Mendo runs for class president.

In his campaign, Mendo pledges to eradicate the triple evils of truancy, fake illness and tardiness. He burns with passion as he pledges to create a brighter future for the entire class (volume 2, chapter 5 "Trouble Rains Down").

Fearful of Mendo's excessive zeal, the class rejects his campaign and elects Ataru instead. This can be seen as a direct result of Mendo's self-aggrandizing delusions that the class needs his leadership to thrive.

On another occasion, Mendo suffers an attack of drowsiness in class. He struggles with all his might to stay awake, telling himself, "No! I mustn't fall asleep... I'm a star pupil..." (volume 2, chapter 7 "Balmy Spring Days and the Failure Class"). Apparently, Mendo sees himself as honor bound to uphold a strict and proper code of conduct.

This is because Mendo's parents and grandfather have been instilling principles of imperial governance in the family heir from a young age. Moreover, Mendo feels a strong sense of pride in his abilities and a desire to live up to his family's expectations.





▲ The Mendo family's time-honored manner of apologizing (volume 8, chapter 20 "Lum's Wrath")

For example, as a member of the undercover student behavior task force, Mendo initially sides with the teachers in supporting the coffee shop ban. But as soon as he learns that the owner has a beautiful daughter, Izumi, his attitude flip-flops (volume 6, chapter 14 "The Coffee Shop Ban").

Even then, Mendo's pride requires him to justify his behavior to align it with his pompous ideals. "We may be the undercover student behavior task force, but we're also students! We won't sell our souls to the teachers!" The fact is, Mendo is merely a womanizer of the same stripes as Ataru, causing Sakura to exclaim, "Those two dirty little..." (volume 6, chapter 22, "A Gift from Ten").

What causes trouble is that Mendo's pride and sense of responsibility as the



▲ Mendo is well-trusted by the school faculty and leads the Undercover Student Behavior Task Force (volume 6, chapter 14 "The Coffee Shop Ban")

Mendo family heir oblige him to frantically cover up his lustful and idiotic nature, whereas Ataru is content to let those qualities rule him. This causes them to come into conflict in various situations, leading to all sorts of mayhem that affects the others as well.

In other words, Mendo is oblivious to his surroundings. Most of the students at Tomoboki High are as un-self-conscious as Ataru. Mendo fails to realize that his pride and ethical airs are falling on deaf ears.

Nonetheless, Tomobiki High is full of cute girls, and even though he gets into nonstop trouble, Mendo seems to enjoy himself. Was coming to Tomobiki High a good choice for Mendo, or a bad one?



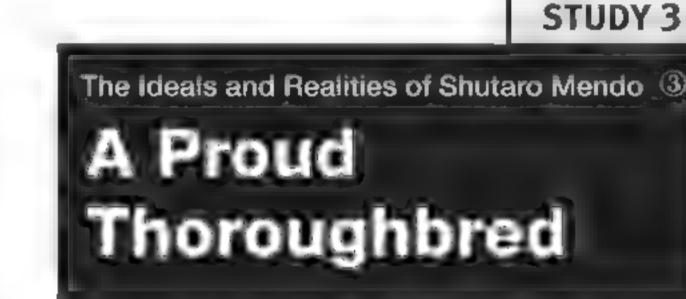
▲ Eventually, Mendo is met with exasperation, if only he'd never transferred to Tomobiki Highl (volume 14, chapter 20 "The Home Visit Blues")



■ Mendo's behavior may be terrible, but his ideology is sound! (volume 12, chapter 2 "A Valliant Duel, Part 1")

Thus, many of Mendo's statements and actions exhibit a rigid moral code. In other words, Mendo serves the role of the voice of reason, frequently reprimanding the libidinous Ataru. It also bears mentioning that unlike Ataru, Mendo would never dream of eating something he found on the street.

By this logic, Mendo should be a strong leader at Tomobiki High, perfectly suited to extinguish the flames of trouble whenever they emerge. But in reality, he seems to fan the flames. Why is this?



Lum's horoscope proves that Mendo's idiocy is on par with Ataru's soon after he transfers to Tomobiki High, but while Ataru accepts this fact with little resistance, Mendo's pride prevents him from doing the same.

#### Urusei Yatsura: 366 Stories in All!

### Amazingly, the first occurrence is in volume 12!

Urusei Yatsura is known for its frequent sound effects, such as KA-BLOOSH, BONK, and VA-SHOOM Of these, Urusei fans have an especially deep affinity for the KA-BLOOIE sound effect, which emerges for the first time in volume 12. In this column, we catalog the total number of incidences in the series.

We counted them up!

The number of times something goes "KA-BLOOIE!"

Fundamentally, KA-BLOOIE is the sound of something blowing up; of the 47 times something goes KA-BLOOIE, 43 are explosions. The other four times are cases where someone falls, and the KA-BLOOIE sound effect is used for comedic effect (volume 14, chapter 2 "Planet Strongfood").

#### Lum makes the most dramatic KA-BLOOIE!

Moreover, depending on the size of the explosion, the KA-BLOOIE can vary, from a KA-BLOOI to a KA-BLOO-BLOOIE. Some unusual variations include a KA-FLOOIE, when an express robot messenger sent by Ten's mother explodes (volume 8, chapter 14 "My Mom the Firefighter, Part 1") or KA-ZOOIE, the impact of a falling star wished upon during the Tanabata festival (volume 14, chapter 12 "Wish Upon A Star").

According to our findings, the most dramatic version of all is a KA-BLOO-BLOO-BLOO-BLOOIE SHA-FOOM! In fact, this is not the sound of an explosion, but of Lum making soup. Scary... (volume 12, chapter 6 "Lethal Attack: Yaminabe!")



▲ A giant cake sets off a serious of explosions at the Mendo residence (volume 11, chapter 1 "Secret Spot! Palatial Cake of Horrors")

The KA part of KA-BLOOIE

is believed to be the
sound of ignition, while
the BLOOIE part is the
reverberating blast.

Number of KA-BLOOIEs......47

Number of KA-BLOOIS......4

Number of KA-BLOOIS......

Number of KA-FLOOIE,

KA-ZOOIE, and KA-BLOO-BLOO-BLOOIE SHA-FOOMs.....1 each

#### Things that go KA-BLOOIE:

Bombs (nine times), rocket launchers (eight times), hand grenades (five times), land mines (five times), Ran's doll bombs (three times), Lum's cooking (twice), comic effects (four times), swim training machine, fireworks, flower and doll, medical robot, power suit, cosmo box (once each)

Author: Kyoko Sugimori
Concept: Masatake Sugimori





#### Rumiko Takahashi



The spotlight on Rumiko Takahashi's career began in 1978 when she won an honorable mention in Shogakukan's prestigious New Comic Artist Contest for *Those Selfish Aliens*. Later that same year, her boy-meets-alien comedy series, *Urusei Yatsura*, was serialized in *Weekly Shonen Sunday*. This phenomenally successful manga series was adapted into anime format and spawned a TV series and half a dozen theatrical-release movies, all incredibly popular in their own right. Takahashi followed up the success of her debut series with one blockbuster hit after another—*Maison Ikkoku* ran from 1980 to 1987, *Ranma 1/2* from 1987 to 1996, and *Inuyasha* from 1996 to 2008. Other notable works include *Mermaid Saga*, *Rumic Theater*, and *One-Pound Gospel*.

Takahashi was inducted into the Will Eisner Comic Awards Hall of Fame in 2018. In 2019, she won the Grand Prix at FIDB Angoulême. She won the prestigious Shogakukan Manga Award twice in her career, once for Urusei Yatsura in 1981 and the second time for Inuyasha in 2002. Her series have sold over 200 million copies worldwide as of March 2017. A majority of the Takahashi canon has been adapted into other media such as anime, live-action TV series, and film. Takahashi's manga, as well as the other formats her work has been adapted into, have continued to delight generations of fans around the world. Distinguished by her wonderfully endearing characters, Takahashi's work adeptly incorporates a wide variety of elements such as comedy, romance, fantasy, and martial arts. While her series are difficult to pin down into one simple genre, the signature style she has created has come to be known as the "Rumic World." Rumiko Takahashi is an artist who truly represents the very best from the world of manga. Her current series RIN-NE is available in North America from VIZ Media.



#### **URUSEI YATSURA**

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STORY AND ART BY

#### RUMIKO TAKAHASHI

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